The National Wool Grower

Volume XLIX APRIL 1959 Number 4

In This Issue:

Is It Worth While?

A Report on 'Down Under'

"Lambs gain twice as fast—losses cut to 2% with pellets containing Aureomycin"

says Bert Kincaid, Jr. of Fort Stockton, Texas

"Pellet feeding with AUREOMYCIN®," says Mr. Kincaid, "saves the sheep feeder real money. His lambs gain twice as fast. No longer does he have to tolerate an expected 10% mortality loss. With AUREOMYCIN, I question whether his losses would run as high as 2%.

"We were convinced of the value of AUREOMYCIN in sheep feed, when we saw the results of a feeding experiment with AUREOMYCIN in 1956. We had 3,000 head of sheep on feed for a customer, kept them for 45 to 50 days, and were able to deliver 2,997 head at the end of the feeding period."

Talk to your feed manufacturer or feed dealer. Ask him for sheep feeds containing AUREOMYCIN — for creep feeding, range feeding, feed lot feeding. Keep sheep healthier, get faster gains, reduce mortality, make higher profits! American Cyanamid Company, Agricultural Division, New York 20, New York.

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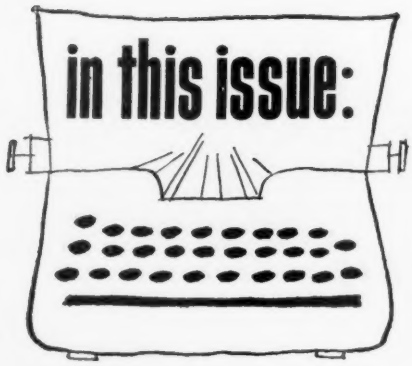


LAMB AND WOOL PROMOTION REFERENDUM:

Sometime ago the Secretary of Agriculture announced a referendum would be held sometime in September, 1959, to determine if deductions from incentive payments on wool would be continued to support the promotion and advertising program of the American Sheep Producers Council. Since each wool grower has the responsibility and obligation to voice his opinion during this referendum, it is, of course, essential that he be well informed regarding this issue. The question every sheepman should ask himself is: "Is it worth while?" This very question is thoroughly examined and answered by Harold Josendal, National Wool Growers Association president, in an enlightening article on page 9.

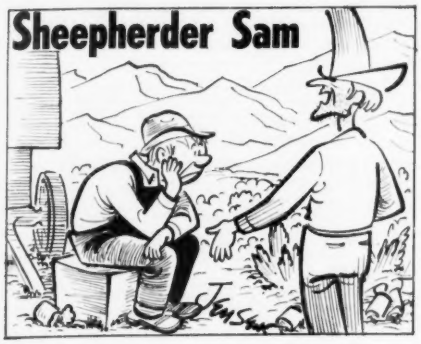
NEW ASPC OFFICERS ELECTED:

Don Clyde, Heber City, Utah, immediate past president of the NWGA, was elected president and chairman of the board of directors of the ASPC at the council's annual meeting at Denver early in March. A new vice president was also named and several other officers were re-elected to council posts. The election story as well as information on the ASPC's operating budget for the coming fiscal year are found on page 12 of this issue.

REPORT ON NEW ZEALAND:

Early this year a group of American sheepmen and farmers journeyed to New Zealand for talks with agricultural officials and a tour of the country. Among the travelers were two representatives of the NWGA, Dominic Eyherabide, immediate past president of the California Wool Growers Association, and William McGregor, Washington Wool Growers Association president.

A thorough, two-part report of the twosome's trip, talks and observations was presented at the recent NWGA convention at Portland. Mr. Eyherabide painted a verbal picture of the country and its people; Mr. McGregor followed with a more detailed account of New Zealand's sheep industry. The first installment of "A Report On Down Under" is found on page 14.



"You can't expect a job to be glamorous forever."

THE COVER:

The picture on our cover for the month is typical of scenes which will be seen throughout the western range country during the spring shearing and lambing season. Credit for the cover photo, taken at the Paul Swisher Ranch near Hotchkiss, Colorado, goes to Monk and Parma Tyson, also of Hotchkiss.

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IRENE YOUNG, EDITOR

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members $5.00 per year; 50 cents per copy. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 8, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

CONTENTS

Research News

Treating ewes with antibiotics greatly reduces losses from vibriosis according to results of tests conducted at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho.

During spring, 1958, the Dubois station had an outbreak of vibriosis. Previous research suggested that antibiotic injections, antibiotic feeding or a combination of the two might reduce losses.

On the basis of previously obtained figures, it was determined that some 672 abortions would occur if ewes were not treated. During lambing, 246 of the station's 3,600 ewes, all of which were treated with antibiotics, aborted. This meant that 426 lambs which otherwise would have been lost were saved. Figured at the rate of $20 for each of the lambs saved, the treatment was worth $8,520.

In addition, all ewes that lost lambs during the 1958 lambing season, were given injections of antibiotics. The number of ewes that died during lambing that year was only one-fifth as large as it was in 1952, when ewes were not treated.

Antibiotics for the trial were furnished by the American Cyanamid Co. Dosage and intervals between treatment for the various antibiotics are still the subject of research, but the results of these tests prove that steps can be taken to reduce losses during vibriosis outbreaks.

That numerous rodent of the western plains, the jackrabbit, may be a more serious threat to many western range lands than is generally supposed.

Dr. DuWayne L. Goodwin, assistant professor of range management at Utah State University, who currently is involved in research study for the experiment station on the influence of jackrabbits on range conditions, estimates that seven of these rodents will consume as much forage as a sheep and 35 will eat as much as a cow. Observations indicate that once vegetation is in poor condition, rabbits alone can keep it down indefinitely.

"Jackrabbit competition for range forage in many areas of Utah and Idaho is made the more serious because they are on the range at all seasons of the year and hit the tender grass shoots as they appear in the spring, never giving them a chance to mature," Dr. Goodwin observed.

He listed three objectives for his experiment station-supported research study: The competition between jackrabbits and livestock for range forage; their influence on range conditions; and their influence on natural range improvement.

"Jackrabbits," said Dr. Goodwin, "apparently use the same species of vegetation as do livestock on the natural ranges. They may be the cause of failure of many attempts to re-seed foothill ranges, because they concentrate on small areas where re-seeding has been attempted," he adds.

Neither vitamin D injection nor early shearing was of appreciable benefit to weanling ewe lambs in tests at the Hop-

land Field Station of the University of California.

In 1957-58 trials, 193 weanling ewe lambs were given different supplementary rations while on range feed. The rations were: control (no supplement), full-bloom alfalfa hay, bud-stage alfalfa hay, half cottonseed meal-half barley, cottonseed meal and barley.

Groups of the lambs were shorn at different dates; certain groups received 1,000,000 I.U. of vitamin D by intramuscular injection.

Vitamin D supplementation produced a non-significant decrease in weight gain and it significantly lowered clean wool production as compared with the non-supplemented controls, G. M. Spurlock, University of California animal husbandman, reports.

Lambs shorn in August showed a non-significant increase in gain but a significant increase in clean wool production compared with an April-shorn group. A March shearing date showed no advantage over April.

Plasma calcium and phosphorus readings indicated that shearing date and D-supplementation had neither good nor bad effect. Rations did not significantly affect July to April gains.

The maximum difference was 5.7 pounds, between the cottonseed meal and the control group. Rations had a

significant effect on clean wool production: cottonseed meal and barley, full-bloom alfalfa, bud-stage alfalfa and cottonseed meal alone, all resulted in small, but significant, increases.

William Cooper & Nephews, Inc., reports the marketing of a new drench, which, the company says, will control more kinds of worms and more worms of each kind in sheep, goats and cattle.

The drench, called "Coopa-Fine," is said to gain its effectiveness from the extraordinarily large proportion, by weight, of finely ground phenothiazine particles.

A release issued by the Cooper company said: "research has proved conclusively that finely ground phenothiazine produces far greater worming action than ordinary phenothiazine. . . . Tests have shown that Coopa-Fine is particularly effective against smaller species of internal parasites because the finely ground phenothiazine particles disperse more easily and widely through the stomach and intestines."

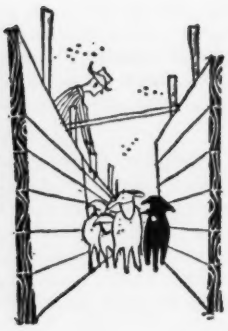
The cold war has stymied one promising search for biological control of halogeton. The weed's native home (and probably its most extensive growth) lies east of the Caspian Sea in southern Russia—an area currently closed to American visitors.

Halogeton, a sworn enemy of livestock men and landowners, has spread through areas of California, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming, where it crouds out forage plants on rangelands, decreases land values and poisons sheep and cattle, according to J. K. Holloway of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the University of California.

Globetrotting entomologists from the U.S. Department of Agriculture will spend this year in Morocco and Spain looking for enemies of a halogeton variety closely related to the invading plant.

"Like the Klamath weed and other plant invaders, halogeton moved into a new home without its natural insect enemies," Mr. Holloway explains. "The job for biological control is to locate and test those insects in the native region, import and release them if they prove safe and effective," he adds.

the CUTTING CHUTE



American Cyanamid Co. grants emphasize vital research

American Cyanamid Company is putting major emphasis on studies to improve growth efficiency and productivity in its 1959 grant-in-aid program for animal development.

During the past year 32 grants were awarded to agricultural college experiment stations for research studies on sheep, poultry, swine, beef cattle, dairy cows, calves and various small animals.

Covered under American Cyanamid's grant program are research studies to find new and more effective ways to reduce livestock losses from animal diseases.

In announcing the grants, Cyanamid said its program was designed to help halt tremendous losses suffered by stockmen from infectuous diseases. These diseases, despite the tremendous strides made during the past few years, still cost livestock and poultry producers millions of dollars annually.

Farm net income rises

Farmer's realized net income during 1958 was up 2.2 billion dollars over 1957 prices according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Income Situation Report of March 5. This is an increase of 20 percent over realized net income of 1957.

Realized net income, the report explains, is the amount of income available for spending after the farmer has paid all his product expenses. However, it does not include any adjustment for the value of changes in crop and livestock inventories. The total income of the farm population was reported to have risen nearly 13 percent to 22.2 billion dollars in 1958.

The report also points out that with the farm population rising some two percent in 1958, per capita income rose 10.5 percent to $1,068, a new high. This figure was nine percent above the previous record of $938 set in 1951.

USU sets up renewable resources institute

An institute to coordinate Utah State University's wide range research in renewable resources was established by U.S.U.'s Board of Trustees at its monthly meeting during February.

Problems of water sheds, grazing, wild life, soil and other renewable resources are being studied in the University's program in several departments. The Institute of Renewable Resources Management in addition to integrating present programs will promote and examine additional research.

Cowboy Hall of Fame names Utahn to board of directors

One of Utah's most respected sheepmen and cattlemen, Charlie Redd of LaSal, has been named to the board of directors of the Cowboy Hall of Fame, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

The Cowboy Hall of Fame was designed to honor and preserve the memory of deceased leaders of the great western movement and the livestock industry of the United States.

American Conditioning House appoints new consultant

Giles E. Hopkins, former research director for the Wool Bureau, Inc., was named consultant to the American Conditioning House March 11.

A release issued by the American Conditioning House said:

"Through this arrangement, Mr. Hopkin's advice and council on wool and fiber technology, and on broad policies of marketing and textile production, will become available to AMC and, through that organization, to the wool marketing and textile industries."

Mr. Hopkins will assist in promoting a greater mutual understanding between the many agencies concerned with production, marketing and utilization of animal fibers.

Revised "Stockman's Handbook" ready for marketing

A revised edition of Dr. M. E. Ensminger's "The Stockman's Handbook" has recently come off the presses and is currently being sold.

The book has received the praise of many livestock leaders. It was first released in 1955, being received with such enthusiasm that it received five printings.

The revised edition covers breeding and feeding of livestock, pastures, hay, silage, management, animal health, disease prevention, parasite control, marketing livestock and a wide range of other vital topics.

The book, which the publisher is billing "the most important livestock book in the last 25 years," costs $8.50.

"Livestock production research great," Meat Board manager says

More research is being continued in all phases of livestock production than is generally realized, according to Carl F. Neumann, Secretary-General Manager of the National Live Stock and Meat Board.

In an address at Colorado State University at Ft. Collins, February 26, Mr. Neumann said that much of this work has as its ultimate aim the production of meat that fits the needs of todays consumer.

"This is another indication of an awareness on the part of livestock growers and feeders that consumer action is of direct concern to him, as well as to the people who pay and sell his animals, those who process meat and those who sell it across retail meat counters and in restaurants," Mr. Neumann said.

He credited much of the success of meat promotion activities in recent years of record breaking meat production to the continued interest and support which has come from "grass roots" levels of the livestock industry.

Franklin opens Washington venture

Development of a new public relations service available to individual sheepmen was recently announced by Robert Franklin. Mr. Franklin's new Washington office is located at 2324 Iverson Street, S. E., Suite 2, telephone REdwood 5-5656.

The new public relations firm also has a field office near Denver, Colorado, with Brett Gray in charge. The field office is at Arvada, Colorado, P.O. Box 217, telephone (Denver) HArrison 2-1788.

Lamb-Wool Promotion—

Is It Worth While?

By HAROLD JOSENDAL
President, National Wool Growers Association

IS it worth while? That is the question every grower is asking about the program of the American Sheep Producers Council. The Secretary of Agriculture has announced that a referendum will be held next September to determine the continuation of the deduction from the incentive payments on wool to support the promotion and advertising program of the ASPC.

Each of us as growers has an obligation to make a decision on the question and cast a vote in the upcoming referendum.

Three Years Ago

We must determine whether we as producers shall continue to make a united substantial effort to promote and advertise our products. Shall we keep on trying to do something for ourselves or shall we just sit back and yelp to the Government for help?

We as the producing arm of the industry started three years ago to "win friends and influence people" among the consuming public. At the outset, our primary goals were to reinstate wool in the public's mind as the most valuable fiber—the standard of comparison; and to improve the distribution pattern of lamb.

How far have we come in three years and some five and a half million dollars' worth later?

In the past decade we have witnessed the phenomenal rise of new synthetic fibers and a revolution in the organization of the textile industry. Literally hundreds of textile mills have closed their doors. The surviving mills have nearly all consolidated into a few large manufacturing organizations whose machinery can use any fiber.

Wool Trend Reverses

In this struggle for survival wool might very well have lost its market completely without an active advertising and promotion campaign. As it is, the trend is reversed in some lines. The low point of average weekly mill consumption was reached in December, 1957. In 1958 the increase in the weekly rate in the worsted division was 50 percent and in the woolen division 29 percent. It is encouraging to note that the downward trend is halted and that improvement is being felt. To give sole credit to the advertising program would be foolish indeed when we all know that a prime factor in wool's recovery in consumption is its low bargain price.

However, we can not overlook the fact that in textiles, style is sold, not just cloth. It takes promotion to create and sell style. An outstanding example of this is in the field of knitwear. A few years ago there were no American-made all-wool swimsuits and very little of many other knit goods. A concentrated promotion program resulted in the reappearance of woolknit goods on the American market as a definite high-style trend. In fact, it is quite possible that many more wool sweaters could have been sold in 1958 had they been available.

The challenge is definitely out to the wool industry to tell its story to the American people so well and so often that wool can keep its rightful place on the backs of consumers. The American Sheep Producers Council is answering the challenge with a stepped-up program of consumer education and merchandising through the Wool Bureau and Woolknit Associates for 1959. We as growers must recognize this and give all our support to our common problem of holding and regaining our wool market.

What About Lamb?

How are we doing on lamb? Has the ASPC actually helped the distribution and marketing of lamb for the producer?

Look back a few years and see the picture of an erratic lamb market with New York the focal center. An extra supply of lamb carcasses in New York frequently panicked the dressed market, reflecting back as much as a two- or three-cent decline in the live market in a single week. It was this situation which the ASPC set out first to remedy. By concentrating its advertising and promotion in 19 other cities with a limited program to keep our already good customers in New York, it has improved distribution to the point where we no longer have the extreme daily fluctuations in the market. This alone has been worth the cost of the entire program.

Retail Prices Stable

When we look at the retail price of lamb, the ASPC program has definitely been working. According to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, an average 100-pound choice and prime lamb yields 49 pounds of carcass, or 47.2 pounds of retail cuts. A look at the average prices New York retailers received for these 47.2 pounds in 1957 and 1958 shows a spread from a low of $25.34 in February of 1957 to a high of $33.96 in November, 1958. Even in December of 1958 this New York retail average was still $33.20 while the lamb feeder was "losing his shirt" with a live price of $19.81 per hundredweight. The average retail price in 1957 for the 47.2 pounds was $29.51, and in 1958 was $32.73. At the same time the live price in

1957 averaged $23.37 compared with $23.63 in 1958; $1.06 of this represented a lower 1958 pelt credit. It was not until February of 1959 that retail prices dropped to more accurately reflect the drop in live prices. From this we can conclude that the ASPC program has reached the consumer to bring about a slightly higher consumption of lamb at a higher average price. Due to inflationary pressures along the line, everyone else has increased cost and markup while the producer and feeder have taken what is left.

Should we condemn the whole program because of this? Should we recognize that, whether we promote lamb or not, these added costs of doing business will be taken out by everyone else along the line of distribution? Should we recognize that in many stores lamb is a minor item volume-wise and without a lot of prodding the retailer just doesn't care whether he handles it or not?

The answer is that we as producers have to fight for a place in the market, striving to keep our products in the minds of consumers, creating such a demand that retailers will be glad to handle lamb in such volume as to reduce cost.

We can not do anything less than to keep the ASPC program going at an ever-increasing pace.

Marketing Chief Tells of USDA Research Programs

Editor's Note: It is customary for the National Wool Growers Association to call the attention of Government officials to actions taken at the National convention. Association officials are always very pleased when they receive comments such as those presented in the following letter from Dr. O. V. Wells, Administrator of the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service to NWGA President Harold Josendal on research projects:

YOU will recall writing me under date of February 4, 1959, calling attention to the resolution adopted at the recent convention of the National Wool Growers Association:

> "We recommend that work on lamb carcass studies be accelerated. We further recommend that the American Sheep Producers Council assist the studies in every way possible."

You indicated that the Association was aware of and supported the USDA's long-range comprehensive study of sheep breeding, including measurement of carcasses for size, conformation, and quality, and felt that this was an important work which should be continued. You then specifically called attention to the need for research to determine just what the most desirable lamb carcass might be, indicating you would appreciate knowing what research in this direction is contemplated this coming year by the Department and the State Colleges. You also sent a copy of your letter to Dr. B. T. Shaw, Administrator of the Agricultural Research Service, in order that both the research and marketing groups might know of your wishes for accelerated research.

I have discussed your letter with representatives of the Agricultural Research Service, and this letter is in the nature of a progress report on research which is under way. First of all, I am attaching copies of three separate listings of Federal-Grant Research in State Agricultural Experiment Stations. These deal with animal husbandry projects relating to sheep and goats, projects relating to red meat and poultry meat, and finally with economics of marketing projects having to do with livestock, meats, and wool. Your attention is called to the fact that these are research projects financed in whole or in part by Federal-Grant funds. They would not include State Experiment Station projects financed wholly from State funds. Frankly, I rather doubt if there is much research of this kind in the Western States although there of course may be an occasional project.

Animal Husbandry Research

As you are well aware, the crossbreeding work at Beltsville has now been under way for a number of years. During this period of time we have slaughtered representative lambs from each of the purebred (with one exception) and each of the crosses, as they become available. The several years of study have been necessitated by the need to obtain adequate numbers of animals for the various crosses and to provide for year-to-year variations.

The principal objective of this work has been to determine the effectiveness of crossbreeding, using four purebreeds as foundation stock. The data collected include carcass measurements, yield and composition on all lambs slaughtered and selected individuals for palatability studies. Also, these lambs have until recently all been males. All of the animals have been slaughtered as they reach a live weight of approximately 75 pounds; this produces a dressed carcass of 32 to 38 pounds (a light to medium weight).

The analysis of these data to date has provided only a summary of averages for each of the purebreds and each cross combination. During the past year, all of the lamb carcass data have been transferred to IBM punchcards. It is planned to make a complete statistical analysis of these data both from the point of view of determining the value of certain measurements, ratios or combinations as objective measures of important carcass quality factors and also to determine the effectiveness of crossbreeding as a breeding procedure for improvement of the more desirable meat quality factors of yield, tenderness, flavor, etc. These meat studies will be continued on the basis of the interpretations of the statistical studies. They will be a part of the program of breeding, feeding and management research.

In addition to the previously mentioned studies, our Meat Quality Laboratory is actively studying two other aspects of lamb quality, namely, an accurate method for determining the composition of live animals and a method for determining the tenderness in live animals. While these studies are not actually on lamb meat, any procedures and/or knowledge gained from beef will be easily adapted to lambs. Our supply of beef, varying widely in age, fatness, etc., is more readily available throughout the year, thus the reason for its use.

An additional lamb carcass study is being initiated this year to determine the relationships of the meat characteristics of lamb carcasses to live animal traits and to make genetic analyses of the carcass and meat characteristics to aid in developing sheep breeding and selection procedures for improvement of yield and quality of lamb meat. This project will involve work with various breeding groups of lambs from the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station and Western Sheep Breeding Laboratory, Dubois, Idaho, and will be carried on in part through a contract which is now being negotiated with Wyoming Agricultural Experiment Station. This project will also contribute to the Western Regional Project on the development of selection criteria for the genetic improvement of carcass merit in sheep. This research should aid greatly in developing more

adequate methods of evaluating meat quality in the live animal and also in developing methods of improving the yield and quality of lamb meat through breeding. Of course, the scope of this research is necessarily limited by available funds, and it is expected that data over a number of years will be needed to produce significant and useful results.

Carcass Cut-out Data

The cut-out data on lamb and mutton carcasses collected by our Standardization Branch under contract with Pfaelzer Bros. in Chicago were only a part of an overall contract which also included similar studies on beef, veal and calf.

The primary purpose of these studies was to obtain basic data on the factors responsible for variations in yields of cuts in order that consideration could be given to including this variable in the grade standards for these kinds of meat. Another application of the data is the furnishing of the average yield information on various grade and weight groups. This latter information was obtained by manual analysis of the data and supplied to the American Sheep Producers Council on March 4, 1957.

The Standardization Branch had neither the personnel to analyze all of these data as soon as they were collected nor did it have the funds to hire it done. Since there appeared to be more urgency for analyzing the beef data, this was done first—through a contract with North Carolina State College. The results of those analyses, together with our further studies, have been helpful in deciding on the type of analyses that should be used for the lamb and mutton data.

All of the original lamb and mutton data are currently on punch cards. The Statistical Standards Division of AMS has agreed to start the statistical analysis of these data in the very near future and plans to have it completed by July 1, 1959.

During the next fiscal year we expect to evaluate the application of this cut-out data for its use in a possible modification of the lamb grade standards and to issue appropriate reports thereon. Some additional cutting work may be indicated as well as field testing of any proposals which the data might indicate. The analysis may suggest, for example, the possibility of a dual grading system reflecting "cutability" as a grade factor similar to that now being studied for beef.

Quality and Nutritive Value of Lamb

Laboratory analyses are almost completed and data are being summarized on 872 cuts of lamb. The meat samples analyzed to date at Beltsville are 512 paired cuts from 128 animals obtained from several sources: 48 carcasses were selected from the market by staff of the Agricultural Marketing Service; 64 animals of known history were provided by the Animal Husbandry Research Division of the Agricultural Research Service; 16 animals of known history were obtained from Mississippi State College. The market samples represented lambs in three age groups and two degrees of fatness in each group; the animals of known history represented lambs varying in age and in quality grade. Additional research under way at the University of California at Davis, under contract with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, is on paired cuts from 60 carcasses representing lambs of three age groups and three feeding practices.

Quality evaluations are made on raw and cooked cuts from the leg of lamb, the rib-loin, and in some cases the shoulder of lamb. Evaluations include determinations of color by the Gardner Automatic Color Difference Meter; shear by the Lee-Kramer Shear Press and the Warner-Bratzler instrument; flavor, tenderness, and juiciness scores by a sensory difference panel; protein, fat, moisture, and ash content by chemical analyses; vitamin content, including thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, pantothenic acid, folic acid, pyrexidine, and B_{12}, by chemical and microbiological methods; content of fifteen amino acids by microbiological methods; and content of ten mineral elements by spectrographic methods; as well as basic data on percentage yield of lean meat, fat, and bone by physical separation, and weight of cut before and after cooking.

Data are being calculated for summary tables to serve various users. In the first series of tables, calculations are based on food in the natural state, raw or cooked; in a second series, on edible portion without bone and waste; and a third is based on cooked food calculated back to the weight as procured. In some cases, additional calculations are based on dry weights or on nitrogen content of the food. A total of 46 extensive tables of basic data resulting from these analyses are being prepared for statistical evaluation and interpretation.

Research on lamb in the Human Nutrition Research Division was initiated in 1957. In 1958, data on the flavor, tenderness, and juiciness of lamb meat from the 48 carcasses selected from the market were summarized in a report to the cooperating agencies and submitted for Departmental review. It was then decided by the Department to postpone release of this segment of the report until chemical analysis of the cuts in this group was completed and until quality and chemical data on more animals from different sources were available. Accordingly, work has been continued in this direction. After the present data are submitted to statistical analyses, decisions will then be made as to whether a report can be released or further work needs to be done.

The current analysis of data already obtained should be completed in two or three months. Whether it could be released or more work will have to be done will depend on findings, particularly the variability of the data.

The summarization of the data has already been accelerated to the fullest extent possible. Because the analysis is in its final stages, it could not be effectively accelerated by the addition of new staff.

Line projects concerned with research on the quality and nutritive value of lamb meat include:

HN 3-13(C)	Palatability of cooked lamb as related to physical and chemical properties and to production and marketing practices (Includes contract with the University of California at Davis).
HN 1-3	Minerals: Determination of the quantities of nutritionally important minerals in foods.
HN 1-8	Determination of total solids, nitrogen, fat, and ash content of selected cuts of raw and cooked lamb.
HN 1-10	Determination of thiamine, riboflavin, and niacin in selected lamb and pork cuts as marketed and cooked.
HN 1-11	Amino acids in selected lamb and pork cuts as marketed and cooked.
HN 1-12	Determination of the content of selected B-vitamins in foods as purchased, processed and served.

* * * * *

I wish to thank you on behalf of both the Agricultural Research Service and the Agricultural Marketing Service for your letter of February 4. I hope the above material will be of value and interest. We are aware that the above materials may not wholly answer your question as to proposed research during the coming year. However, we are not as yet entirely certain as to funds and personnel that may be available, and we are also just now in the process of reviewing the recommendations of the various advisory committees as a first step in determining projects which might be considered for initiation as funds and resources become available. In this connection, we shall of course give substantial attention to the priority recommendations of the various advisory committees, including the Sheep and Wool Research and Marketing Advisory Committees on which you serve.

—O. V. Wells
Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service

LAMB PROMOTION NEWS

from American Sheep Producers Council

DON Clyde, Heber City, Utah, immediate past president of the National Wool Growers Association, was elected president and chairman of the board of the American Sheep Producers Council at the Council's annual meeting at Denver, March 10 and 11.

Mr. Clyde succeeds G. N. Winder, Denver, Colorado, who headed the organization since it was formed in September, 1955. Mr. Winder declined renomination.

Named vice president was Walter L. Pfluger, Eden, Texas. He succeeds J. R. Broadbent, Salt Lake City, Utah. Officers re-elected include Farrell Shultz, DeGraff, Ohio, treasurer; J. M. (Casey) Jones, Denver, Colorado, executive secretary, and Mrs. Eunice Gray, Denver, Colorado, assistant treasurer.

At an ASPC delegate meeting on March 9, with 93 sheepmen from the Council's 20 State and area sheep councils in attendance, a complete review was given of proposed wool and lamb advertising and promotion programs for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

The following day, directors discussed budget requirements for the new fiscal year. They hiked promotion and advertising budgets for both lamb and wool from the current year's level of $2,250,000 to $2,564,000 in a renewed effort to expand demand for lamb and wool in the United States. Directors set a budget of $1,371,000 for lamb advertising and promotion and $974,000 for wool. The current budget calls for $1,350,000 for lamb and $900,000 for wool.

The new lamb budget includes $242,600 for the Council's Consumer Service Department, which conducts a complete lamb promotion program for consumers through the use of home economists in the promotion cities. The department also handles development of teaching aids for schools and colleges and a nationwide program of publicity on lamb cookery for newspapers, radio, television, magazines and trade publications.

For lamb merchandising, directors set a budget figure of $417,200, which will permit expansion of promotion activities in New York City and the New England area. The lamb merchandising department works with packers, processors, retailers and restaurant operators to encourage the use of lamb.

The lamb advertising budget is set at $711,200, and will include advertising in newspapers, radio and television in the 20 promotion areas in which the Council is currently operating.

In addition, directors approved a budget of $111,000 for administration of the program and $78,000 for the Education and Information Department, which handles production and distribution of information releases, visual aids, exhibits, motion pictures and slides.

The board also authorized a budget of $25,000 for study of various research projects to determine what will help improve acceptability of the sheepman's products. This would be an attempt to compile and evaluate the many research projects completed, underway or authorized, which may have a direct effect on improvement of lamb and wool to meet requirements desired by consumers.

Lamb promotion work by the Women's Auxiliary of the National Wool Growers Association received a boost when the directors authorized $12,000 for this purpose. This represents an increase of $7,000 over the current fiscal year's budget for this purpose. The new budget provides $500 for use in 20 States in which the Auxiliary operates to promote lamb on local levels.

The wool budget of $974,000 includes expenditures by the Wool Bureau for a program of consumer and trade advertising and merchandising. In addition, Woolknit Associates will again participate with a publicity campaign on woolknit wear and a joint trade advertising program.

The Women's Auxiliary of the National Wool Growers Association will again receive $65,000 of the Council's wool budget to help conduct its "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest.

Directors approved $75,000 for Woolens & Worsteds of America, Inc., but left to the discretion of executive officers and the Wool Advisory Committee to determine if woolen mills and manufacturers can provide additional funds adequate to make the program worthwhile. Woolens & Worsteds was organized last year by the ASPC to promote American-made wool products.

As a further aid to the Miss Wool contest, directors allocated $13,000 to the Wool Bureau, Inc. which includes $5,000 for promotion and publicity for Miss Wool.

RECAPITULATION

July 1, 1959 through June 30, 1960

	1958-1959 Budget	1959-1960 Budget
Board of Directors' Expenses	$ 27,000	$ 27,000
Administrative Expenses	82,000	111,000
Equipment Expense	3,000	3,000
Education & Information Dept. Expenses	90,000	78,000
Wool Advertising and Promotion Expenses	900,000	974,000
Lamb Advertising and Promotion Expenses	1,350,000	1,371,000
Product Development Survey		25,000
Totals	**$2,452,000**	**$2,589,000**

Newly elected officers of the American Sheep Producers Council are, from left to right: Farrell Shultz, DeGraff, Ohio, Treasurer; Eunice Gray, Denver, Colorado, Assistant Treasurer; Don Clyde, Heber City, Utah, President; Walter Pfluger, Eden, Texas, Vice President, and J. M. (Casey) Jones, Denver, Colorado, Executive Secretary.

Here's Summary of March Association Work

Organization Committee Meets

CHAIRMAN George K. Hislop called the NWGA's Organization and Membership Committee appointed by President Harold Josendal together in Denver, Colorado on March 8, 1959, to coordinate their thinking on preliminary steps that might be taken toward expanding the National Wool Growers Association into areas not now included in its membership.

Committee members Don Clyde of Utah and J. B. McCord of Texas, along with President Harold Josendal and Executive Secretary Edwin E. Marsh attended the meeting. Everett E. Shuey, the other committee member, was unable to be present.

Various methods by which the expansion program might be set up to interest midwestern, eastern, and southern groups in joining the National were discussed. No formal action was taken.

Later on committee members talked informally with representatives of farm flock groups in attendance at the annual meeting of the American Sheep Producers Council and impressed on them the fact that their affiliation with the NWGA would be mutually beneficial especially in protecting the interests of the sheepman on the national legislative scene.

The Organization and Membership Committee is expected to report a proposed plan of action to the Executive Committee at its meeting in Palo Alto, California, July 9-10.

Freight Rate Matters

VICE President David Little of Emmett, Idaho, will testify in behalf of the National Wool Growers Association on March 30 at the Portland, Oregon hearing on the westbound meat rate case. Mr. Little is chairman of the National Wool Growers Association's Transportation Committee.

Reduced rail rates on westbound fresh meats and packinghouse products became effective August 14, 1957. Then following a reduction by motor carriers in their rates on July 7, 1958, the rail carriers announced, effective November 15, 1958, new rates substantially lower than those of August 14, 1957.

These rates were suspended to June 14, 1959 through efforts of the National Wool Growers Association, the American National Cattlemen's Association, Western States Meat Packers Association and other groups, with Commerce Specialists Charles E. Blaine and Son heading the movement.

In addition to the Portland hearing, the Interstate Commerce Commission also took testimony in this docket on March 24. In this case, the position of the National Wool Growers Association is that rates on livestock should be reduced proportionately to those on fresh meats.

* * *

ON March 18, 1959 the responsibility of furnishing actual weights of carload shipments of feeder sheep was shifted from the railroads to the shippers or buyers on interstate movement between country stations in Arizona, California and Nevada on the one hand, and country stations in Utah, southern Idaho, Wyoming (west of Cheyenne), Oregon (east of Huntington), Nevada, or Arizona on the other hand.

If actual weight is not given, freight charges will be assessed at the applicable rate subject to weights which exceed by 500 to 1,000 pounds per car, the minimum weights prescribed by the Interstate Commerce Commission.

This proposal of the Pacific Southcoast Rate Bureau has been fought all along the way by Charles E. Blaine and Son, commerce specialists for the National Wool Growers Association and other groups. Final defeat came on March 13 when the ICC Board of Suspension refused to suspend the rule, as had been requested by the National and State wool growers' associations in the States affected.

Executive Meeting Slated

THE midsummer meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association will be held July 9-10 at Rickey's Studio-Inn Hotel at Palo Alto, California.

Committee members should make their reservations through the Salt Lake office of the National Wool Growers Association.

Marketing Discussed

SOME 25 lamb producers and feeders met in Denver, Colorado, the evening of March 9 for an informal discussion of various lamb marketing problems, with emphasis on Federal lamb grading and lamb imports.

President Harold Josendal of the National Wool Growers Association presided at the meeting. The resolution adopted at the recent NWGA Convention, at Portland asking for termination of Federal lamb grading was read by J. R. Broadbent, chairman of NWGA's Lamb Committee. He also announced that the National Lamb Feeders Association had concurred in the position taken by the producers.

Plans for securing favorable action on the resolution were considered. As the Department of Agriculture had indicated it might call a conference of interested parties to go over all angles of the question, the need for assembling facts to support the claim that Federal grading is detrimental to the merchandising of lamb was stressed. The question of palatability in relation to weight was discussed and hope expressed that results of research on this relationship would soon be available.

The necessity for doing something in connection with the increasing imports for lamb and mutton was recognized, and various ways were suggested for approaching the problem but no definite plan of action was adopted.

Those attending the lamb marketing meeting included: Colorado — Paul Etchepare and J. W. Brown; Idaho—John Noh; Illinois—Stephen Paydon; Indiana—Lawrence Love and Oren A. Wright; Michigan—Warren E. Phillips; Minnesota — Earl Cunningham; Missouri, V. B. Vandiver; Nebraska—Lemoyne E. Johnson and Thomas F. Arnold; North Dakota—Ralph Hickle; Ohio—Farrell M. Shultz and Paul A. Getz; Oregon—H. A. Cohn; South Dakota—Robert Daily and Dave Rathbun; Texas—J. D. Nabers and Jack Canning; Utah—E. E. Marsh and J. R. Broadbent; Washington—George K. Hislop; Wyoming—Howard Flitner, Charles Vivion, Norman Stratton and Harold Josendal.

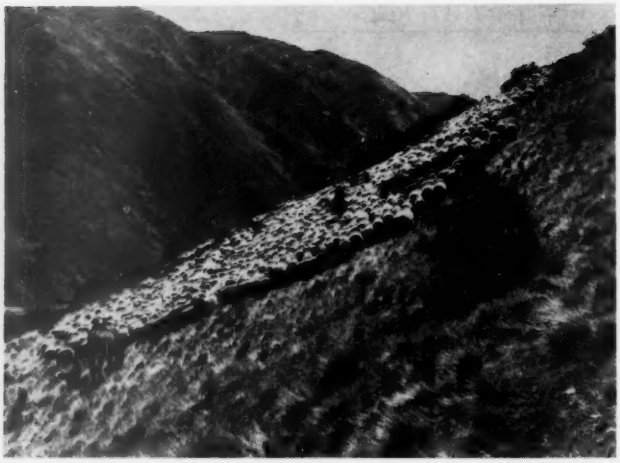
Grading Conference Set

APRIL 17 has been set by the United States Department of Agriculture for a conference with producers, feeders, processors and retailers on the subject of Federal lamb grading.

The meeting was set on the request of NWGA President Harold Josendal. Such a conference was suggested in the reply of Assistant Secretary Clarence L. Miller to the National Wool Growers Association proposal based on convention action, that Federal lamb grading be discontinued.

Preparation for producers' presentation of background facts supporting the discontinuance of lamb grading is under way.

This aerial picture shows the rich farm and grasslands for which New Zealand is famous. The NATIONAL WOOL GROWER is indebted to Mr. A. P. O'Shea, General Secretary of the Federated Farmers of New Zealand, for the illustrations used with this article.



New Zealand is a mountainous country and the high country now cleared of its native forests, has been seeded with grass to become ideal for the raising of sheep. Modern top dressing by air has raised fertility, enabling farmers to carry an astonishingly large number of stock per acre.

After Two-Week New Zealand Trip-

Grower Issues A Report on 'Down Under'

By DOMINIC EYHERABIDE

Immediate past president California Wool Growers Association, at the 94th Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association, Portland, Oregon, January 28, 1959.

I note by the program that the topic for our* report is "Our Trip Down Under." I really don't know why people call it "down under" because never once while we were there did I hear New Zealanders refer to us as "up over."

Nevertheless, I would like to thank the National Wool Growers Association for giving me the opportunity to make this fine trip. Besides Mr. McGregor and me, there were four other members of the group: Louis Rczzoni, president, California Farm Bureau Federation; Herman Aaberg, assistant director, Commodity Division, American Farm Bureau Federation; Jess Bigelow, vice president, National Livestock Producers Association and Oren Wright of the National Farmers Union.

The trip was sponsored by the Federated Farmers of New Zealand. It was a very well organized tour, although we had a rather busy schedule and very little time to ourselves.

We landed in New Zealnd on January 9, and left there January 26. We were there a little over two weeks. Practically all the time we were there, except the last three nights, we stayed with growers. We were lodged individually or in groups of two. We stayed first with one grower and then with another. We used to have a standing joke among ourselves. Every time we were leaving one place, we would say, "We're being placed up for adoption again."

This constant change of lodging gave us an excellent opportunity to study the methods of operation of the New Zealand growers very closely. They, in turn, were eager to learn about the United States and our methods of sheep raising.

New Zealand is not a very big place. It is composed of two islands of approximately equal size. It is a little smaller than the State of California and has about 2¼ million people.

New Zealand is primarily an agricultural country and has little industry and practically no minerals. Consequently, it exports agricultural products and, in turn, buys the necessities which it doesn't produce itself.

New Zealand claims it does more trade per capita than any other country, and that it also has the highest average standard of living in the world. That may or may not be true, but one thing is certain, there is no poverty of any kind in New Zealand and there are no slums. Everyone is employed, and when one picks up the paper he sees several pages of "Help Wanted" ads.

New Zealand, roughly, lies between thirty-four and forty-seven degrees south latitude, which gives the country a rather temperate climate. In the extreme north portion of the northern island, the climate is on the tropical side, while in the extreme south portion of the southern island the climate is temperate, with rather cold winters.

Most of New Zealand is rolling hills, though there are some bush areas left. The whole country, generally speaking, is blessed with very adequate rainfall. This rainfall in the productive sections of the country ranges from a low of about 20 inches to a high of about 60 inches. The rain is generally scattered well throughout the year, except for a period of about two months during the summer during which little moisture falls.

New Zealand has about 66 million acres of land. Of these, some 20 million acres are arable; another 20 million acres are unimproved range lands, and the balance of the land is either unproductive, high mountains or bush country. Of the 20 million acres of arable lands, 17 million are sown to pastures—that is the backbone of New Zealand's economy.

Sheep are primarily what maintain the country. Besides sheep, New Zealand has quite extensive dairy herds and also a beef cattle industry.

There are some 42 million sheep in the country. Of these, 32 million are

*Mr. Eyherabide was accompanied on his New Zealand trip by William McGregor, president of the Washington Wool Growers Association. Mr. McGregor's portion of the report will appear in the May issue of the National Wool Grower.

breeding ewes and the balance are hold-over ewe lambs and wethers. The country also has about 3 million dairy cattle and approximately 1 million beef cattle.

I would like to stress, however, that the beef cattle industry is strictly a by-product of the sheep industry. All New Zealand sheepmen raise some cattle, primarily to clean out coarse grasses and weeds and to make pastures more succulent for sheep.

I asked several sheepmen if it would not be more profitable to raise greater numbers of cattle. The general answer was that growers could produce just as many pounds of lamb per acre as they could cattle and that by raising sheep they also had the wool.

Some 40 percent of the exports of the country is wool. That is the big commodity—the biggest commodity export-wise. Some 33 percent is meat and the remaining 25 percent is dairy products.

Wherever we went, as we traveled from place to place, there were three questions which were always asked of us:

One was: "What type of sheep do you raise?"

The second: "How many acres do you farm?"

And third: "Are you a range operator or a fat lamb raiser?"

In New Zealand sheep producers fall into one of these two categories. The fat lamb operator differs a great deal from the range operator. He is usually in arable areas where he has a lot of sown pastures and where he raises other crops for use in fattening lambs.

He does not raise his sheep; he buys them usually as five-year-olds, runs them for two seasons and then sells them as fat old ewes. As a general rule, he crossbreeds his ewes with a Southdown ram, thereby getting a more marketable type of lamb.

The fat lamb operator generally markets these Southdown lambs at what we would consider very light weights. Highest prices are paid for lambs dressing 28 pounds and under. Prices decline as the weight goes up.

Practically all sheep operators in New Zealand call themselves farmers, and they are strictly farmers, in the true sense of the word. They are the greatest grass raisers in the world. Frequently they speak in terms of production per acre. They point to a field and say, "Well, that field will produce 150 pounds of lamb and 150 pounds of wool per acre." When they speak of lamb they speak in terms of dressed pounds.

Romneys are the principal sheep used in New Zealand, although growers do use some Corriedales, Cheviots, Border Leicesters, Merinos, and some crosses between these breeds. However, 65 percent of the sheep are Romneys and their general wool classification falls from about a 44 to about a 50.

We were able to inspect these flocks with Jim Little whose grandfather started the Corriedale breed, and we were very much impressed by the animals that he had.

The carrying capacities of the different locations on the island vary considerably. In some areas we were amazed at the concentration of sheep in a small area. Certain areas carry as high as eight sheep per acre, while in rougher portions of unimproved range lands capacities might be as low as one sheep to 10 or 12 acres.

The growers have done a considerable amount of work to develop and improve their pastures. They are great to go in and clear out brush. Sometimes they use chemicals, sometimes heavy caterpillars—two caterpillars with chains tied between them—and knock brush down.

Then they burn it. If the ground is level, they might disk behind it, and probably apply lime—about two tons per acre. A year later another ton of lime is added. Then growers seed the ground and apply sulphurs and fertilizers—phosphates. They get a tremendous production of grass in a very small area of land.

The sheepmen have also gone into the hills and done a tremendous amount of seeding and applying of phosphates and super phosphates by airplane. As a matter of fact, the airplane is probably more responsible for the increase in lamb and wool production in New Zealand than any other single factor.

Because of the airplane, growers are able to get up in the hilly country and mix seeds and super phosphates and apply it to their lands. They have made mile after mile after mile of beautiful permanent pastures out of very steep hillsides. As a result, their sheep production has increased considerably.

In 1940 New Zealand had about 22 million sheep. Today the country has approximately 42 million. One of the results of the nation's group program is that production capacity has increased faster than the number of livestock.

One interesting item about New Zealand's sheep industry is that yearling ewes sell for twice the price of fat lambs. This shows there is a keen demand. People have a lot of feed and want to get as much livestock as possible on their properties.

New Zealand's sheepmen, like we, have their tax problems, but those problems differ from ours to a certain extent. One interesting difference is that their property taxes are very low. They call them land assessments.

One operator with whom I stayed had 700 acres of land on which he ran

(*Continued on page* 31)

A band of fat lambs are shown returning to pasture and their mothers, after being docked and examined for foot rot. New Zealand sheepmen spare no efforts or costs to insure the well being of their sheep.

A large herd of Merinos are pictured in the yards of Glentanner Station, Canterbury, New Zealand where they were being prepared for drenching and eye clipping. The Glentanner Station is considered to be one of the foremost sheep stations in the southern portion of New Zealand.

Forest Service Revises Policy on Grazing Reduction Notices

A year's notice is to be given permittees when reductions in grazing permits on National Forests are to be made for conservation and protection. This revision of policy is now in effect, according to C. A. Joy, Director, Division of Range Management, U.S. Forest Service.

Mr. Joy states the change in policy has been made so that the permittee may adjust his operation to meet the new situation and so that more time may be allowed for making decisions on cases that may be appealed.

The previous instructions to Forest Service officials connected with the range management read:

"404.2 Reductions. a. **For conservation and protection.** Reductions in numbers of livestock or grazing periods, or both, may be made at any time in any amount as may be determined by the local forest officer to be needed for range protection. However, permittees should be given adequate notice of planned reductions which will allow time to make necessary adjustments in their herds. Normally this will result in reductions being announced at the close of the summer grazing season. Where the reduction in preference exceeds 20 percent, the total reduction may be spread over a period of two or more years. Before making formal announcement of the number to be reduced, the need for protection reductions will be discussed with the users and they will be given an opportunity to inspect the range with local forest officers.

The revised policy is:

"404.2 Reductions. a. **For conservation and protection.** Reduction in numbers of livestock or grazing periods, or both, may be made at any time in any amount as may be determined by the local forest officer to be needed for range protection. However, when reductions are required, permittees should be given a reasonable length of time to make necessary adjustments in their livestock operations.

"The general practice will be to allow one full established grazing season to elapse before a required reduction in permitted numbers or period of grazing is put into effect. In the case of yearlong permits, the full grazing season would consist of 12 months, beginning on the date the permit year starts. Exceptions to this general rule will be made in cases where range and watershed conditions are such as to require emergency action.

"In usual circumstances, decisions should be made and announcement of planned reductions sent by registered mail to affected permittees or their authorized representatives as early as practicable in the year in which the reduction is announced in order to allow reasonable time for the permittee to arrange for alternate pastures or to make other operational adjustments to fit his needs. This procedure also will allow more time for making decisions on cases that may be appealed before the reduction is scheduled to go into effect.

"In cases where range and watershed conditions are sufficiently serious to justify emergency action, the responsible forest officer may withhold validating a permit or cause livestock to be removed from the range. Such cases may involve fire, drought or insect damage to the range of sufficient severity to justify withholding or prompt removal of livestock to prevent damage to soil and forage resource. Emergency action might also be applied where continued use of severely eroded areas would tend to further aggravate a serious flood potential which threatens life and property damage at lower elevations or contamination and damage to domestic water supplies.

"In cases where the permittee and responsible forest officer agree to a program for a range allotment which involves reductions in use without taking advantage of the full amount of advanced notice allowed under this policy, a clear, concise letter or memorandum of understanding should be prepared, given to and discussed with the permittee or permittees involved.

"Before giving formal announcement of any required protection reduction, the need for such action will be thoroughly discussed with the permittee. He will be given an opportunity to inspect the range with local forest officers. Studies and pertinent records on which conditions were judged will be made available for review by the permittee, or his authorized representative. Every reasonable method will be employed to see that the permittee is informed concerning the action to be taken."

When questioned on the omission of the sentence, "Where the reduction in preference exceeds 20 percent, the total reduction may be spread over a period of two or more years," Mr. Joy said: "The present policy is not changed because of the elimination of the sentence referred to. Each case is handled individually and the permittee's situation is given careful consideration along with any proposals that he may have. No large percentage adjustment is contemplated in any one year except where 'emergency action' is necessary."

President Harold Josendal has told Director Joy that he would be fearful that an overzealous supervisor or local forest official might find an emergency far too easily. "It would seem better to me," President Josendal stated, "to have some provision for a review even of the emergency action, by either an impartial board or by superior forest officers."

Countervailing Duty Removal Prompts Industry Protest

THE United States Treasury Department on March 2, 1959 removed the 6 percent countervailing duty on imported Uruguayan wool tops. The removal was made retroactive to December 30, 1958.

The Treasury Department decision was based on their finding that the exchange rate for wool tops (4.1025 pesos per dollar) is below Treasury's calculated weighted average of all Uruguayan export and import exchange rates (4.353 pesos per dollar).

The statement presented by President Harold Josendal for the National Wool Growers Association in the Senate Finance Committee hearing on February 17 asserted that exporters of Uruguayan top were receiving 19 percent more pesos per dollar than the exporters on raw wool.

Considerable objection was placed before the Senate Committee on the Treasury Department's method of determining the need for countervailing duties.

This interesting sidelight on the Treasury Department's formula appeared in the "Daily News Record" of March 9, under a Montevideo, Uruguay dateline:

"The local trade believes that the Treasury Department erred when assuming that Uruguayan subsidies for top exports had been discontinued. They were maintained and even increased since 1952. However, it is believed that the Treasury Department's decision to waive countervailing duties was based on the figuring of an average

(*Continued on page* 36)

Johnston Convention Talk Explains

. . WYOMING FACE BRAND . .

And Other Research Projects

By ALEXADER JOHNSTON

Wool Specialist, University of Wyoming, at the 94th Annual Convention of the National Wool Growers Association, Portland, Oregon, January 29, 1959.

WOOL manufacturers are unanimous in believing that total elimination of insoluble branding paints from domestic wools would be of definite value to the industry. Most wool trade authorities state that paint-free wools are more valuable than wool with paint brands.

One manufacturer stated that paint-free wool was worth three to four cents a pound, grease basis, more than wool with paint, while another manufacturer stated that wool with paint brands was worth 10 to 15 percent less, grease basis, than wool without paint.

This difference in values occurs because paint brands either must be clipped by hand from the wool or extracted in wool processing. Consequently there is a certain loss of fiber, and an increase in the cost of making fabrics. By selling lots of scoured wool —identical except some were paint-free and others still contained paint brands —we have proved that paint-free wool realized 0.75 cents and 1.50 cents a pound, grease basis, more than scoured wool containing paint.

Branding sheep on the face with durable dye eliminates paint on the wool. We have found two dyes, one called Nyanzol D and the other called silver nitrate, that will endure on face hair for more than six months. These dyes can best be applied to the sheep's face with a small brush. Care should be taken to see that plenty of dye saturates the face hair covered by the brand.

If a wool grower does not use paint brands on his fleeces, he should be sure to tell wool buyers that his clip is paint-free.

Shrinkage Determination

We have completed basic research on 25 bags of grease wool that shows shrinkage of graded Fine, ½ blood or ⅜ blood wool can be determined within 30 minutes. This new method calls for weighing each bag in the lot, measuring its length circumference and estimating the staple length of the wool. Shrinkage may then be calculated by using a simple formula.

By this method we have found that calculated shrinkage of a five-bag lot of graded Fine or Medium wool will be within 1.27 percent of true shrinkage, and that calculated shrinkage of a ten-bag lot will be within 0.90 percent of true shrinkage in 19 times out of 20 or for 95 percent of the lots. A wool grower or wool buyer can easily use this method. It requires a platform scale to weigh the bags, a 20-foot steel tape to measure the length circumference, and a 12-inch ruler to measure staple length.

Editors note: The exact shrinkage determination method was described in detail in the March issue of the National Wool Grower.

Marketing Wool in Wyoming

Our Agricultural Economics Department is studying types and grades of wool produced in Wyoming, existing marketing methods used by growers, and wool marketing costs. Economists have analyzed data from statements of wool sales in 1956 covering 6.7 million pounds of grease wool from the three largest wool-producing counties in Wyoming.

They found that net prices paid to wool growers plus freight charges and other marketing costs were, on an average, 8 cents a pound, clean basis, or 3.2 cents a pound, grease basis, below the quoted prices for wools on the central market. In addition, they found the total marketing costs in 1956, including freight, to average, 7.7 cents a pound, grease basis. For 1958 they estimated costs at 8.21 cents a pound, grease basis. The data also showed that wool buying in Wyoming is concentrated in relatively few hands.

The price spread between net prices paid to growers and central wool market quoted prices was greatest at the beginning of the wool season, April and May, and lowest during the following January, February, and March, at the end of the wool year.

Making "Markers"

Black wool fibers in white wool are a serious defect. Black-wooled sheep rub against white-wooled sheep in the flock and leave black fibers on the surfaces of white fleeces. In order to eliminate black sheep we have been experimenting with ways to make "markers" out of white sheep.

To date we have found that the red powder used to dye concrete, applied to the sheared sheep in one application is durable for 12 months. Another method that seems to be satisfactory involves painting 6-inch high consecutive numerals on each side and rump of white-wooled ewes. However, this method necessitates putting branding-paint on the fleece and we are trying to eliminate paint brands on white wool altogether.

We are continuing our work on this project using other materials in durability tests.

Low Fertility Causes

For years there have been low lamb crops from ewe flocks pastured in a certain area of southern Wyoming. This situation has been under investigation since 1957.

Results to date indicate that vitamin A reserves of ewes in that area are adequate for normal reproduction during both below-average and average annual feed conditions.

Researchers found the toxic element, selenium, in considerable quantities in the tissues of sheep slaughtered during fall, winter and spring seasons. However, analyses of blood and liver and kidney tissues, suggest that sheep void this element while on summer ranges. The effects of selenium on reproduction in sheep are currently being studied by the University of Wyoming Veterinary Science Department.

A survey of lambing percentages of several flocks showed that a large number of the dry, or barren, ewes were two-year-olds, even during an above-average feed year on the desert.

The study also indicates that variation in lambing performance among various herds using different summer ranges is related to the quality or type of forage on these ranges. To further investigate this phase of the project, a large number of yearling ewes will be exchanged for one year among several operators, each of whom have summer ranges of different forage type and quality. After a year in these different environments, body weights and pregnancy determinations will serve as measures of performance.

Effects of Weather

Wind, rain, snow, winter cold, and summer heat all cause deterioration of the exposed staple ends. Wool fibers lose their protective coating of grease and perspiration salts and become harsh and brittle. When this condition exists far down the staple the wool is called "weathered."

We find that, on an average, weathering of tip ends runs 17.2 percent of staple length for Staple wools, 18.4 percent for French Combing wools and 20.5 percent for Clothing wools.

Weathering in the finer wools (70s to 62s) averaged 17.1 percent of the staple length, while weathering of ½ blood wools averaged 17.3 percent and weathering of ⅜ blood staple averaged 22.4 percent.

One measure of the commercial significance of weathering in wool that we found is demonstrated by the results of our test in which we separated abnormally weathered back, shoulder, and rump wools from normally weathered wool in a number of Fine and ½ blood fleeces. The two lots were then scoured and combed. The yield of top from the normally weathered lot was 79.7 percent; from the abnormally weathered lot the yield of top was only 77.9 percent.

We know that covering sheep with canvas coats protects fleeces from weathering, but this is too expensive to be economically feasible. However, there may be other ways of controlling weathering of wool on the sheep's back and we are continuing research for this reason.

Processing Experiments

For years we have been testing many Wyoming wools by measuring their performance in processing. In other words, we sort, scour, card, and comb representative lots from clips in order to measure by comparison the differences that exist in yields of top and noil between wools, and to obtain measures of the influence of wool defects upon processed products of top and noil.

From our work we have obtained evidence to support the following conclusions concerning Wyoming wools:

1. That usually more than 95 percent by weight of graded wool can be combed to make top that conforms with accepted market standards.
2. That there are less waste products from processing than was believed heretofore.
3. That the market value of off-sorts and inferior sub-lots of wool from clips can be increased by processing (scouring, carding, and combing) beyond what they would sell for in the grease state.
4. That meticulous sorting of the fleece is not necessary to command maximum market prices for grease wools.
5. That efficient and feasible preparation of grease wools for market under existing wool marketing and manufacturing conditions comprises separation of tags, stained wools, and hairy breech wools from the fleece and then grading the fleeces on the basis of quality, staple length, condition, and extent of defects.

For future work in this phase we plan standardized tests of top and noil yields of grades from clips to give wool growers comprehensive knowledge of the properties of their own wools. This information will serve to give the grower superior bargaining power when he and the wool buyer agree upon the clip value.

"Hairiness" an Indicator

Fleeces in the grease state, especially crossbred fleeces, frequently have thick, hairy fibers protruding from the compact staples of side, shoulder and thigh wools. This gives the fleece a hairy appearance that wool buyers and manufacturers have discriminated against.

A detailed examination of paired random side and thigh samples from 22 clips having varying degrees of crossbreeding in them, has revealed that by clip averages of 11.9 percent of side samples and 40.1 percent of thigh samples were classified as being "hairy." Side samples from seven clips did not show "hairiness," but "hairiness" was present to greater or lesser degrees in the thigh area samples of all 22 clips.

The "hairiness" condition did not always indicate that these hairy fibers were medulated. However, "hairiness" was a definite indication of lack of quality because "hairy" side samples were significantly coarser than non-hairy side samples from the same clip, and the same was true to an even greater degree in the thigh area samples from these clips.

Although all results of this work have not been analyzed, we can strongly recommend that wool growers cull from their flocks all ewes having fleeces that exhibit even the slightest degree of "hairiness" in the side or thigh wools. Also, that care should be taken by wool growers not to purchase rams for flock use that have this character in their fleeces.

I am quite aware that this will be a difficult rule to follow, but if a wool grower desires to attain a reputation for producing wool of the highest quality then he should consider this recommendation. By careful culling and selection of breeding stock, ultimately the grower can entirely eliminate "hairiness" from his clip.

Consumer Acceptance of Lamb

The University of Wyoming Departmentment of Agricultural Economics has recently undertaken a study dealing with consumer acceptance of lamb. Objectives of the study are to determine consumption and preference expressed by families and the possibilities for increasing lamb consumption through greater availability at retail stores.

Research in this field has uncovered several startling facts—for example, some 59 percent of the total lamb consumption in the U. S. is concentrated in the urban areas of the Middle Atlantic and Pacific States, and per capita lamb consumption is lowest in areas where most lamb is produced.

This study will attempt to uncover the reasons for this seeming paradox. Economists will undertake to learn the conditions under which lamb could be made more readily available in retail stores in lamb producing areas of the country and the possibility of using less desired cuts in alternative outlets, particularly in the form of processed lamb products.

Selection by Performance Records

Work has been done with several purebred flocks in Wyoming. Essentially this is a performance study and the grade, length, grease fleece weight, and body weight are taken at shearing time. The clean fleece weights are determined after scouring the wool.

The usefulness of this work lies in furnishing the grower with knowledge of what his individual sheep are producing. The record, left with him at shearing time, gives him a handy reference when culling his sheep. Fleece defects are detected and eliminated. The records are useful to the breeder in selling breeding stock and in providing measures of production for the individuals in his flock. The measured variations in all characters indicates there is room for much improvement in the different breeds.

Selecting Replacement Ewes

Phase I. This test is concerned with two methods of selection, the Hill (touch) subjective method and the method by using indices. These sys-

(*Continued on page* 25)

Irene Young Bids Growers Farewell

I appreciate the very kind things said about me when my retirement was announced at the National Convention in Portland. I hope I merit at least part of them, and if so, I am sure it is due entirely to the people and the industry I have aimed to serve.

First it requires no effort to be loyal to an industry whose production is so valuable. Congressional action was not necessary to convince me that wool is essential to our welfare, or promotion programs to tell me how delicious and nutritious lamb is. (There are too many by-products to mention here but I cannot resist singling out two: lanolin, the most effective healing ointment that I know, and lamb's wool, a great foot comfort.)

Then it is easy to give your best when you respect and like the people with whom and for whom you work. Serving under twelve Association presidents, I know through first-hand observation that each, in his own way, has made a notable contribution to the industry and the Association.

Perhaps it is presumptuous of me to comment on the work of Association leaders, but I do not believe anyone knows better than the office staff just how much effort and hard work the presidents of the National Wool Growers Association put in during their terms of office. Sometimes it is a major legislative battle that occupies their main attention; sometimes it is the institution of research to advance the business; sometimes it is promotion and advertising and the solution of marketing problems in which the president's interest is chiefly centered. Of course no matter where his chief interest lies, he must be and always is ready, willing and able to work on any and all current problems. In fact, I have heard one or two of them say they had not realized there was so much work involved in being an NWGA president. But no matter what time of day or night their advice is required, they are always available. Their generosity in service is without bounds.

The same type of service is required of and freely given by NWGA vice presidents, executive secretaries and organization leaders all the way down through the State and local groups, as I have learned through attendance at Executive Committee meetings. Dedication to promoting the welfare of the sheep industry and its members characterizes the entire organization. There may be difference of opinion on how objectives are to be accomplished, but that is just a sign of vitality in an organization.

And the National Wool Growers Association is a very vital one. I have watched it functioning for over forty years and I know of the weight and prestige it carries. It would take a very large volume just to list its efforts and achievements. The victorious tariff battles fought by the Association in earlier years—before tariffs went out of style—and the programs secured to rehabilitate the industry after the damaging war years need not be heralded. Every sheepman knows about them.

Because of these major accomplishments, it probably is not necessary to mention, even if it were possible, the many problems connected with freight rates, lamb and wool marketing, grazing, labor, sheep diseases and predatory animals that confront the industry continually or recurrently and that can only be handled through organized effort.

Also with practically every mail delivery into the NWGA's office, comes a request from a closely allied group or industry for NWGA action on some pressing problem. If it does not arrive in the mail, it comes over the telephone or telegraph wires.

To the solution of all these difficult questions, the National Wool Growers Association brings the force of a strong organization. While the right answers have not been found for all of them, eventually they will through continuation of such effort.

Here again I do not need to tell sheepmen readers of the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER about the value of your organization, for you, through your support, have generated its tremendous force. I just want to show why I have enjoyed and been very proud of my connection with such an association, its leaders and members.

I hope that the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER has brought you the information you have needed. We have tried to do this. I have no fear about the future of the magazine, for experience has taught me that no matter how good a job you have tried to do, those who come after usually do it much better. This, I am sure, will be true with Executive Secretary Marsh as editor and associate editor, Jack DeMann, who will handle the production of the magazine.

To thank all those who have contributed to my personal development and to any improvement in the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER would be impossible. However, I should like to express my appreciation of the services given by the Deseret News Press, the Graphic Arts Engraving Company and J. Walker Caldwell, our efficient mailer.

Very grateful, too, am I for the cooperation and assistance given me by Miss Gladys Mike, Mr. Marsh's secretary, and Mrs. Buhlia Anderson, the Association bookkeeper, and of course, the assistant editor.

My special thanks go to the officers of the National Wool Growers Association Company: President S. W. McClure, Vice President J. B. Wilson and Trustees Fred T. Earwood, M. V. Hatch and Edwin E. Marsh for making the work on the NATIONAL WOOL GROWER as pleasant and easy as possible through constructive assistance and confidence in me.

Because I am human, I hope I shall be missed a little, as I know I am going to miss very much the many very kind and exceptional people I have met and known through my years with the sheep industry and all the organizations with which it is connected.

—Irene Young

1959 SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR

National Association Events

July 9-10: National Wool Growers Association Executive Committee Meeting, Palo Alto, California.
August 19-20: National Ram Sale, Ogden, Utah.
August 28: Miss Wool Pageant, San Angelo, Texas.
January 24-27, 1960: National Wool Growers' Convention, San Antonio, Texas.

Conventions and Meetings

June 16-17: Columbia Sheep Breeders Association of American Meeting, Lubbock, Texas.
July 14: Arizona Wool Growers Convention, Flagstaff, Arizona.
August 13-14: California Wool Growers' Convention, San Francisco, California.
November 4-6: Wyoming Wool Growers' Convention, Casper, Wyoming.
November 6-7: Nevada Wool Growers' Convention, Reno, Nevada.
November 8-10: Washington Wool Growers' Convention, Yakima, Washington.
January 28-30, 1960: American National Cattlemen's Convention, Dallas, Texas.

Sales

May 4-5: California Ram Sale, Sacramento, California.
June 23-25: San Angelo Rambouillet Sale, San Angelo, Texas.
August 5: Washington Ram Sale, Yakima, Washington.
August 5: Idaho Ram Sale, Filer, Idaho.
August 19-20: National Ram Sale, Ogden, Utah.
September 8-9: Wyoming Ram Sale, Casper, Wyoming.
September 12: Idaho Fall Range Ram Sale, Pocatello, Idaho.
September 17: Montana Ram Sale, Miles City, Montana.
September 21-22: National Columbia Show and Sale, Yakima, Washington.
October 8: Utah Ram Sale, Spanish Fork, Utah.

Shows

May 3: Far Western International Sheep Dog Trials, Sacramento, California.
May 3-5: California Wool Show, Sacramento, California.
June 3-4: Intermountain Jr. Fat Stock Show, North Salt Lake, Utah.
June 10-September 10: Oregon Centennial Exposition, Portland, Oregon.
August 4: Washington Ram Show, Yakima, Washington.
August 28: Miss Wool Pageant, San Angelo, Texas.
October 17-24: American Royal Live Stock & Horse Show, Kansas City, Missouri.
January 15-23, 1960: National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colorado.

DEATH CAMAS

Second Of A Series Of Articles On How To Reduce Livestock Poisoning

(EDITOR'S NOTE: *This article, as well as all others in this series, has been reprinted from a leaflet on plants that poison livestock, which was prepared by Animal Disease and Parasite Research Division, Agricultural Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

The NATIONAL WOOL GROWER plans to print an article on one plant each month for 16 months. You may wish to clip and save the articles for future reference, or copies of the leaflets may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.)

DEATH camas is the common name of several species of plants that are poisonous to livestock. The more toxic of these species are grassy death camas[1] meadow death camas,[2] foothill death camas,[3] and Nuttall's death camas.[4] They are found principally in the western range States.

Sheep are most likely to be affected by feeding on death camas, but occasionally cattle and horses are also affected. Most losses occur in the spring, when green forage is scarce and animals are forced to eat these toxic plants. However, the plants are dangerous at all times.

Where and When It Grows

Some species thrive on sandy plains, and others in drier, rocky foothill areas. The more toxic species are seldom found above elevations of 8,000 feet.

The leaves appear early in the spring, and are soon followed by the flower stock. At higher elevations, the plants generally flower in late June and July.

Death camas has grasslike leaves that grow from a deeply buried bulb, which is odorless. Its flowers are yellowish white and grow in clusters at the top of a stalk, which may be four to 18 inches tall. The plant is a perennial and belongs to the lily family.

How It Affects Livestock

Death camas may affect an animal's nervous system, respiration, and heart. A 100-pound sheep may die if it eats one-half to two pounds of green foliage.

Death camas has grass like leaves that grow from a deeply buried bulb, which is odorless. Its flowers are yellowish white and grow in clusters at the top of the stock, which may be 4 to 18 inches tall.

The amount of foliage that will cause an animal's death depends on the species of plant eaten. Severely poisoned animals usually die; those less seriously affected may recover.

The following are symptoms of death camas poisoning:

1. Rapid breathing.
2. Excessive salivation.
3. Nausea.
4. Weakness and staggering.
5. Convulsions.
6. Coma.

How to Reduce Livestock Losses

Livestock owners can reduce losses by following good management practices:

1. Keep animals off death camas ranges until adequate forage is available.
2. Give animals supplemental feed.
3. Seed range to nutritious and palatable vegetation if this is practicable.

There is no effective treatment for death camas poisoning, and eradication of the plants is not practicable.

Where to Obtain More Information

Livestockmen may obtain more detailed information on death camas poisoning by getting in touch with county agricultural agents, or by writing to State agricultural experiment stations or the U. S. Department of Agriculture. If questions arise regarding affected animals, livestock growers should contact a veterinarian.

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[1]Zigadenus gramineus.
[2]Z. venenosus.
[3]Z. paniculatus.
[4]Z. nuttallii.

The above map shows the area where most livestock poisoning from death camas has been reported. It is possible that the plant may grow in other areas.

Robert W. Lockett
Arizona

W. P. Rickard
California

L. Elton Gent
Colorado

Wilbur F. Wilson
Idaho

Dan Fulton
Montana

Stanley C. Ellison
Nevada

Guy L. Arbogast
Oregon

R. A. Smiley
South Dakota

Lance Sears
Texas

J. R. Broadbent
Utah

William McGregor
Washington

J. Norman Stratton
Wyoming

CSU Sheep and Wool School 'Beneficial'

DURING the four "Livestock Days" held at Colorado State University, two days were included for a Sheep and Wool School as part of the program for sheepmen, while dairy, beef, and swine producers were holding court in other sessions at the University.

The sheepmen who attended the school felt they benefited a great deal from the two days spent at the University.

Most facets of the sheep industry were covered by lectures, panels and discussions. There was also a work session where each person had an opportunity to try his hand at grading wool. When the score cards were graded a good many of us didn't show anyone our grades.

Besides the two days at Fort Collins, the Extension Service has held eleven sheep and wool schools throughout the State. They were one-day meetings covering many subjects pertaining to the sheep industry. No grower could have spent a more profitable day than at any of these schools.

The wool growers of this State should be proud of Colorado State University and the Extension Service for their whole-hearted cooperation in every aspect of our operations.

These wool schools bring out the fact that a good many of us sheepmen know less about our products than is healthy for our well-being.

The same is true not only of wool but also of lambs. Many of us sell our lambs on the range. We do not actually know what we have sold until the lambs are in the corral and sorted ready for delivery.

Just like shooting dice in the dark, hoping when the light comes on it will be a seven.

I believe the time is way past due for us to avail ourselves of all the knowledge and technical skills that can be applied to the raising of sheep. Only those who are well versed in all of the sheep industry aspects can hope to show a profit in these days of inflated expenses and deflated market returns.

—L. Elton Gent, President
Colorado Wool Growers Association

E. Montana's Stable Climate Aids Growers

ABOUT a year ago I wrote about the dry winter we had here in eastern Montana previous to that time. Last summer much of the eastern Montana area continued a little on the dry side, although timely rains did bring about some vegetative growth most everywhere. This extreme northern portion of the Great Plains, though, did remain about the only portion of the range area not in top condition throughout last year, and some livestock reservoirs were dry last fall for the first time since the thirties.

The past winter most of this area has had abundant snow, which is going off now in mid-March. During the winter we had some cold nights but the cold spells didn't last long; we had little wind, and livestock did well. Since the cold was not extreme and the snow insulated the ground, the frost didn't get very deep and much of the snow water is going into the soil, but an ample portion is running off to fill reservoirs and water holes.

All in all, we have the most promising spring conditions in this community that we have had for many years.

I have heard a lot of discussion of Great Plains weather during the past 40 years. There is an old wives' tale or folklore about the variations of weather being the greatest hazard of agricultural enterprise in the area. Back in honyocker days, my father told me that crops wouldn't do as well here as in the Corn Belt because we didn't get as much rain.

This is invariably right; we have never in any year had anywhere near the 35 inches annual precipitation common in the Corn Belt. On the other hand, we have never had a year so dry that there wasn't a little grass growth to summer and winter a few head of sheep.

Looking back now on my 40 years' experience, the most stable factor has been the weather. The great instabilities arise from the human factors acting through such things as 320-acre homesteads, taxes, prices, Federal farm programs, Federal land buying and the variable human emotions of the local inhabitants—including sometimes even me!

Anyone interested in the Great Plains must not miss Dan Cushman's current book, "Goodbye Old Dry." The dust cover calls it, "a novel about a genial con man." but he wasn't a con man.

(*Continued on page* 34)

Shearing, Selling, Strengthening Prices Spark March Market

March 23, 1959

EARLIER shearing in some areas, sales of wools as fast as shorn, and some strengthening of prices are features of the 1959 market up to this date.

Wools are reported as lighter shrinking but in some instances shorter because they lack a full 12-months growth.

Desire to get the 1959 clip sold before March 31 and make it eligible for the incentive payment under the 1958 program is the reason for early shearing. What the incentive payment will be, of course, will not be known probably until sometime in June. The weighted average price received by producers during the first 10 months of the 1958 marketing year, (April, 1958 through January 1959) is computed as 36.9 cents. On the basis of that figure, the percentage needed to bring the average return per pound up to the incentive or support level of 62 cents would be 68. Whatever the percentage figure turns out to be, there is no question about its being the highest payment since the program was initiated. The first year, 1955, the percentage payment was 44.9; in 1956, it was 40 and last year it was only 15.5.

That there has been some improvement in prices paid at producing points is very encouraging. It reflects to some extent improved foreign markets and the general feeling that 1959 will be a better marketing year.

The Agricultural Marketing Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, known for its conservative position, says in its March 1959 issue of The Wool Situation, approved by the Outlook and Situation Board:

"Wool prices this season have been lower than a year earlier as world supplies have been larger and demand easier. World demand is expected to improve as inventories of wool products between the mill and the consumer are reduced and economic activity in the other major consuming countries improves. This is likely to be accompanied by some advance in prices though any rise during the 1959 domestic marketing season is likely to be modest . . . World demand for wool picked up after mid-January of this year, and prices abroad advanced a little. Late in February, prices at the Australian auction centers ranged from 5 to 10 cents per pound, clean basis, higher than at mid-January. The increases in duty-added prices ranged from 4 to almost 10 per cent."

The report cautions that "it is still too early to tell if the rise is the beginning of the upturn or a temporary halt to the decline started in late May 1957."

Strong and rising markets at foreign points continue. Prices at Australian sales according to the Daily News Record of March 20 were very firm at Adelaide and 2½ percent higher at Sydney the day before. The report is as follows:

Prices, clean basis, landed in Boston with duty of 25½ cents a pound paid.

Type		Sydney	Adelaide
55	(64-70s wp)	$1.35	1.36
62	(64s wp)	1.30	1.30
63	(60-64s wp)	1.26	1.26
78	(64s good-av)	1.28	1.27
64	(60s wp)	1.24	1.23
80	(60s good-av)	1.22	1.20
423-2	(58-60s)	1.22	1.19
424-3	(56-58s)	1.14	1.15
425-4	(50-56s)	1.11	1.08

Trade papers in recent weeks have also noted the firming process in the wool market. Elliot W. Brown, sales manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation, recently gave it as his opinion that as "this year proceeds, we will see somewhat higher prices in this country." "I justify this thinking," Mr. Brown states, "on the grounds that the textile business is excellent, with every indication that it will continue so, and that domestic wools are now

DOMESTIC WOOL QUOTATIONS ON THE OPEN MARKET AT BOSTON

WEEK ENDING MARCH 20, 1959

	Clean Basis Prices	%	Grease Equivalents Based Upon Arbitrary Shrinkage Percentages (3)	%		%		%	
GRADED TERRITORY WOOLS (1)									
Fine:									
Gd. Fr. Combing & Staple..	$1.05—1.10	56	$ .46— .49	59	$ .43— .45	64	$ .38— .40		
Ave. & Gd. Fr. Combing.....	.97—1.02	55	.44— .46	60	.39— .41	65	.34— .36		
*Sh. Fr. Comb. & Clothing....	.90— .95	56	.40— .42	61	.35— .37	66	.31— .33		
One-half Blood:									
Gd. Fr. Combing & Staple...	.98—1.05	51	.48— .52	54	.45— .48	57	.42— .45		
*Ave. & Gd. Fr. Combing.....	.95—1.00	52	.46— .48	55	.43— .45	58	.40— .42		
Three-eighths Blood:									
Gd. Fr. Combing & Staple...	.88— .92	48	.46— .48	51	.43— .45	54	.40— .42		
*Ave. French Combing.....	.80— .85	49	.41— .43	52	.38— .41	55	.36 .38		
One-quarter Blood:									
*Gd. Fr. Combing & Staple...	.85— .90	46	.46— .49	48	.44— .47	50	.43— .45		
*Ave. French Combing.....	.80— .85	47	.42— .45	49	.41— .43	51	.39— .42		
*Low-quarter Blood:	.78— .82	41	.46— .48	43	.44— .47	45	.43— .45		
*Common & Braid	.75— .80	40	.44— .48	42	.44— .46	44	.42— .45		
ORIGINAL BAG TERRITORY WOOLS (1)									
Fine:									
Gd. Fr. Combing & Staple...	1.00—1.05	57	.43— .45	59	.41— .43	61	.39— .41		
*Ave. & Gd. Fr. Combing.....	.95—1.00	59	.39— .41	61	.37— .39	63	.35— .37		
ORIGINAL BAG TEXAS WOOLS (2)									
Fine:									
*Gd. Fr. Combing & Staple...	1.10—1.15	54	.51— .53	58	.46— .48	62	.42— .44		
*Ave. & Gd. Fr. Combing.....	1.05—1.10	55	.47— .50	59	.43— .45	63	.39— .41		
*Sh. Fr. Comb. & Clothing....	.90— .95	57	.39— .41	61	.35— .37	65	.31— .33		
*8 Months (1" and over).....	.85— .90	55	.38— .41	58	.36— .38	61	.33— .35		
*Fall (¾" and over).....	.80— .85	56	.35— .37	59	.33— .35	62	.30— .32		

(1) Wools grown in the range areas of Washington, Oregon, the intermountain States, including Arizona and New Mexico, and parts of the Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma. These wools cover a wide range in shrinkage and color.

(2) Wools grown in the range areas of Texas, mostly bright in color and moderate in shrinkage except in the panhandle where they are considerably darker in color and heavier in shrinkage.

(3) In order to assist in estimating greasy wool prices, clean basis, market prices have been converted to grease basis equivalents. Conversions have been made for various shrinkages quoted. Prices determined in this manner are largely nominal.

*Estimated price. No sale reported.

selling far below their competitive foreign wools, even allowing for a generous difference in the cost of conversion."

That the textile business is in better condition is borne out by these statements taken from the Wool Situation:

"The International Wool Study Group estimates world mill use of wool (apparel and carpet) last year at 2,774 million pounds, clean, 6 percent lower than the record consumption of 2,995 million pounds in 1957. The drop was due, for the most part, to reduced activity in the world's textile industries, but increased competition from other fiber contributed to some extent.

"The textile recession started in the U. S. toward the end of 1956. In the second half of 1957 it extended to most of the other major wool-consuming countries. . . . Consumption in the U. S. began to pick up early in 1958. By late last year, it had begun to pick up in several other countries, including United Kingdom, France, Japan, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands, and Sweden."

ARIZONA:

Practically all Arizona flocks had been shorn by the middle of the month. Sales of 12 clips were made between February 18 and March 11 at the following prices: 33¼ cents, 33½ cents, 35 cents, 36 cents (two clips), 36¼ cents, 37¼ cents (three clips), 37⅞ cents, and 38½ cents. One clip was sold at 92 cents on a clean basis.

CALIFORNIA:

Shearing was well under way in the Bakersfield area. A million or more pounds of 1959 wools had been sold in the central and south central parts of the State by March 10. As high as 40 cents was paid during the early part of the month for two clips of new 12-months wool. One of these sales was made in the Imperial Valley and another in the San Joaquin Valley. The general range of prices was between 30 and 37 cents. Some ewes wool sold as high as 38 cents. One lot of very heavy shrinking wool brought 29½ cents and one small lot only made 24 cents.

Early in the month 1800 fleeces of 1958 ewes wool sold at 32 cents, f.o.b. shipping point. A total of half a million pounds of last year's wools were said to have been sold between 30 and 36½ cents, mainly at 30 to 33 cents. Most of the 1958 wools stored in the San Francisco Bay district have been shipped.

IDAHO:

Quite a movement of early shorn Idaho wool since late February is reported, probably in excess of a million and a quarter pounds. Most of the wools have sold from 36 to 40 cents, with the bulk selling from 38 to 40 cents. The average price is estimated on the conservative side at 38 cents.

On the low side, two sales of about 8,000 fleeces were made at 33 cents; one clip of about 8,000 to 10,000 pounds sold at 34 cents, and a 4,000-pound clip brought 34½ cents.

A number of 1958 clips held in storage at various marketing centers have been sold, most of them below 38 cents.

MONTANA:

In eastern Montana the 1958 Plentywood Pool of around 18,000 fleeces, or about 200,000 pounds sold at 33½ cents. Forty cents was paid for some 57,000 pounds of fine 1958 ewes wool in the southwestern part of the State. One clip of about 1,300 fleeces, half-blood and fine, brought 35½ cents.

Some sales were reported in the Miles City area as follows: 1050 fleeces at 32 cents; 4,500 fleeces at 32¾ cents; 1500 fleeces at 33 cents; 5,000 fleeces at 33-½ cents; 3,300 fleeces at 35 cents; 1,600 fleeces at 36 cents, and 2,800 fleeces at 37 cents.

NEVADA:

Word from Nevada is that no offers have been made on wools of that State, although usually by this time, there have been offers on "name" clips.

NEW MEXICO:

Flocks are being shorn in the southern part of the State and sold almost as fast as shorn. At a sealed bid sale at Roswell on the 9th, these wools moved: 3,000 fleeces of fine wool at 37 cents; 3,000 fleeces (64's) at 39 cents; 800 fleeces at 42 cents; 1,600 fleeces (58's) at 42 cents; 2,400 fleeces at 43 cents (56's). All of the wools were light shrinking. Sales were reported at Albuquerque early in March at 27 to 34 cents.

SOUTH DAKOTA:

Purchases of about 25,000 fleeces of early shorn wool were reported in the Belle Fourche area at 36 to 42 cents a pound, depending on the wool. It was estimated that some of these wools would have a clean, landed Boston, price of 85 to 98 cents.

Some purchases in that area were reported at prices ranging from 40 to 44 cents. Some sales were made on a clean basis that is rumored to have returned 48 cents to the grower.

In the fleece wool sections, the going price is said to be anywhere from 30 to 34 cents. Lambs wool, now carrying about 10-months growth, is moving at 32 to 36 cents a pound.

TEXAS:

The first sale of 1959 shorn 12-months wool took place at Sanderson the second week of the month. Some 88,000 pounds out of a total 150,000 pounds offered, were bought between 43 and 47-5-8 cents a pound with clean price estimates around $1.00 to $1.05 a pound, delivered Boston. It was felt that all wools offered would be moved quickly as growers seemed ready to sell.

Late in February the largest accumulation of graded staple wool in Texas was sold by the Sonora Wool & Mohair Company at an average price of 50 cents. Between 660,000 and 670,000 pounds were turned; half of the total was 1957 and half, 1958 wool.

At Lampasas the early part of the month about 100,000 pounds of 12-months 1958 wools sold at an estimated clean, landed Boston, price of $1.00 to $1.05. Grease prices were said to be from 33 to 43½ cents.

Estimates of the amount of unsold old wool in Texas vary from one million to two and a half million pounds.

Texas mohair prices were continuing to rise on strong European demand. At mid-month adult hair was selling at $1.11½ and kid hair around $1.46. With only a small portion of the clip left, some market reports indicate that prices may soar to quite some height before the fall clip is available next September.

UTAH:

The shearing of small farm flocks is reported. In the Sanpete County area, some sales were made at 36 cents a grease pound. A clip from 1500 yearling lambs was sold at Fountain Green at 42½ cents a pound.

WASHINGTON:

About 65,000 pounds of Washington yearling wool sold at 32½ cents f.o.b. Portland.

WYOMING:

Early shearing, with wools being sold as fast as shorn, is the report from Wyoming. Wools are about 2 percent lighter in shrinkage on the average than normal. The wools also are said to be generally a little shorter than they were a year ago. In some instances, of course, this is due to early shearing and the fact that the wools do not have a full 12-months growth.

Sales made around the middle of the month reflected stronger market conditions. Early in March, most sales were being made under a $1.00 clean, landed, Boston, price, but by March 15 buyers, mostly topmakers, were paying $1.00 and more for most of the wools.

The only contract for wool before

Wool Market . . .

shearing reported up to this time was made at $1 to $1.05, clean, landed Boston, on a large Converse County clip. It is estimated the contract figure was approximately $1.02, at least 3 cents more than would have been given for similar wools a couple of weeks previous.

In late February and early March several 1958 clips of ewes wool totaling 175,000 pounds, sold at Casper, in a price range of 32½ to 45.65 cents, delivered Boston, mostly at 37 to 38 cents.

First sales of 1959 wools were reported from the Big Horn Basin in northern Wyoming. About 170,000 pounds of mostly fine, but heavier shrinking yearling and ewes wool, mainly 12-months, sold at 33 cents per grease pound, f.o.b. shearing area. The Powell Pool of about 24,000 fleeces, ewes wool, running three-eights to mostly halfblood and fine, brought 35¼ cents, with a discount allowed up to 5 cents per pound for burry, seedy and shorts. The Bighorn County Pool of around 12,000 fleeces of halfblood and fine, relatively light shrinking wools, sold at 37.13 cents a grease pound and the Shell Creek wools, totaling around 10,000 fleeces, halfblood and fine, were purchased in a price range of 36½ to 39 cents per grease pound.

MARCH 1st WOOL STOCKS

The Weekly Wool Trade Report of Wool Associates of the New York Cotton Exchange, says that, according to the Exchange Service Bureau, the net free stocks of apparel wool in all hands on March 1, 1959, totaled 63.1 million clean pounds. This compares with the revised total of 96.0 million clean pounds on hand March 1, 1958. With the new clip soon to be added, and increasing imports, they term supplies adequate.

WORLD WOOL PRODUCTION

The 1958-59 world wool clip is estimated by the Foreign Agricultural Service at 5,015 million pounds, grease basis, a little more than 1 percent larger than the 1957-58 clip. The Commonwealth Economic Committee puts the clip at 2,950 million pounds, clean. Stocks also are larger. The carryover from 1957-58 in the major wool producing countries is estimated to have been over 100 million pounds, clean, above a year earlier.

The 1958 domestic shorn wool clip is now estimated at 241 million pounds, grease basis, up 2 percent from 1957.

NEWS FROM Woolens and Worsteds of America

608 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 20, N.Y.

THE American-made wool promotion campaign by Woolens and Worsteds of America, this month received its most resounding accolade from the wool manufacturing industry.

WAWA's industry-wide membership drive has resulted in pledges of strong financial support from many of the nation's mills, including some of the biggest, as well as firms in allied fields. With actual dollar contributions to match the original budget set aside by the pacesetting American Sheep Producers Council to establish the campaign, the industry is showing resounding approval of the program as completed thus far and as planned for the year ahead. Now, with mill membership and minimum budget goals in plain sight, American-made wool promotion is ready to kick-off with a momentum that will guarantee huge success.

* * *

THIS September's second annual American Wool Month will see the impact of the campaign opened up for the first time in full throttle. A hard-hitting, across-the-board calendar of events is mapped to reach and influence the American consumer. It is calculated to make the public not only **aware** of American-made wool and wool products, but to **demand** them.

One thrilling phrase will be hammered home in hundreds of ways to America's millions: "It's a wonderful **American-made** wool!" That phrase will be the underlying message in every individual American Wool Month project. It will be impressed deeply on the American consumer's consciousness as the description of fabulous arrays of fall woolen and worsted fabrics and fashions, home furnishings, household merchandise, brand-new home-decor ideas, children's and teenage apparel, even accessories including shoes, hats, and handbags.

The list of merchandise will, in fact, include page after page of products of every description. . . merchandise used in publicity and promotions and backed up in every single case with full-scale retail store merchandising.

"It's a wonderful **American-made** wool!" will resound throughout all American Wool Month projects, to be heard and seen again and again in pictures, stories, television and radio programs, popular songs, even movie tie-ins.

A forceful trade-excitement program will stir advance interest and participation in American Wool Month consumer promotion throughout the industry, at the design, mill and apparel and product manufacturing levels. Chief among the planned projects, already eliciting enthusiastic interest and participation from mills, designers and fashion magazines, is the "County Fair American Wool Fashion" project reported here earlier.

OTHER new plans in the works for American Wool Month launching include exhibits and other long-range tie-ins with the important Fashion Institute of Technology, during September itself dedicating a new building in New York's fashion apparel center. This newsmaking tie-in is planned for long-range value to attract talented young people to designing, sales and management careers in the wool industry, and to stimulate interest in the use of American wools and American-made woolens and worsteds among Institute students whose future is in the fashion trades.

THE great American wool story may reach not only throughout America and into the future, via the Fashion Institute tie-in, but may also be heard around the world. Woolens and Worsteds of America has been tapped for participation in the huge American trade fair to be held abroad this July, under the auspices of the State Department of the United States Exposition in Moscow. This exposition which will have the eyes of the world upon it, will dramatize the superiority of American products, this time with emphasis on American fashions and fabrics.

READY now to roll off the presses is the first complete background handbook to be published by Woolens and Worsteds of America. Entitled, "American Woolen Round-Up—from Sheep to Shop," it is a compact digest filled with fascinating facts and "yarn-dyed" American anecdotes culled from America's fabulous "lore of the lamb."

The booklet includes background on WAWA itself, all the exciting facts and advantages and allure of American-made wool and wool products, as well as a glossary of American wool terms. The booklet will be distributed nationally to the press, to schools, clubs and parent and youth organizations, throughout the country. It may be obtained free of charge by writing to Woolens and Worsteds of America.

USDA Gives Information on . . .

Current Scrapie, Scabies Outbreaks

OUTBREAKS of scrapie in three flocks—one in California, one in Illinois and one in Oregon—were noted in the March issue of the National Wool Grower.

In response to inquiry on the part of the National Wool Growers Association for information about these flocks, Dr. J. L. Hourrigan, chief staff officer of the Special Diseases Eradication Section of the Agricultural Research Service, sent the following report. It should allay anxiety of sheepmen over the spread of this disease from recent outbreaks.

"Two sheep on the California premises were found to be inefected in 1957, and the entire flock was slaughtered in March 1957. The premises were cleaned and disinfected the following month. The two sheep showing symptoms of scrapie were a British ram and the daughter of a Rock ram imported from Canada. Sheep sold from the California flock and their immediate progeny were slaughtered also. This included those located in some 216 flocks in California and those located in some 71 flocks in 15 other States. The owner had suspected that the British ram was showing early symptoms of scrapie and had asked State officials to examine him. The owner was most cooperative in assisting regulatory officials in locating sheep moved from his flock so that these animals and their immediate progeny could be located and slaughtered, and thus danger to the flocks concerned could be minimized.

"On July 16, 1957, the California owner imported some 235 Suffolk and Hampshire sheep from Canada and thus the present flock came into being. The Suffolk ewe recently found to be infected was one of the imported animals and was of Rock breeding. Here again the owner suspected she was showing symptoms of scrapie and notified State officials, and he is being most cooperative in assisting regulatory officials in locating sheep he has sold. These animals are being located as rapidly as possible, and they and their immediate progeny are being slaughtered.

"The Oregon flock consisted of 96 grade Suffolk sheep. The infected animal, a grade Suffolk ewe, was noticed to be sick in November, 1958. The owner called a practicing veterinarian who contacted State officials. Fortunately, no animals had been moved interstate from the infected flock, and only a small number of sheep were believed to have been exposed. Regulatory officials endeavored to slaughter all the sheep moved from the infected flock and their immediate progeny, and thus a total of 140 sheep from three flocks was slaughtered. This included the entire flocks in two instances. This was in addition to the infected flock.

"In the case of the recent outbreak in Illinois, two small flocks were involved totaling 26 purebred sheep. The one infected animal, a Suffolk ewe, had been bred by a breeder in Illinois and sold into the flock concerned in 1956. Illinois officials had considered the flock of origin as a source flock, and the entire flock was slaughtered in June 1957."

SCABIES was found in 70 flocks during January of this year, according to the Animal Morbidity Report of the Agricultural Research Service of the Department of Agriculture for that month. The largest outbreaks were in Illinois (23), Iowa (15), Missouri (13), and Ohio (6). Scabies was also diagnosed in three flocks in South Dakota, in two flocks in Virginia and in single flocks in New York, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Arkansas and Tennessee.

Concerns of western States, particularly South Dakota where scabies outbreaks are occurring quite frequently as a result of shipments of sheep from infected flocks in midwestern States, led the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association at its post-convention meeting in Portland to direct that President Harold Josendal appoint a committee of three or more to contact the Animal Disease Eradication Division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to see if steps cannot be taken to eradicate this disease from the United States.

As members of this committee President Josendal has asked the following to serve: R. A. Smiley of South Dakota, Chairman; Lawson Howland of Idaho, Angus McIntosh of Colorado, T. A. Kincaid of Texas, and T. S. Taliaferro of Wyoming.

Recognition of the need for work on scabies is indicated by the fact that 15 State and Federal inspectors from the States of Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota and Texas attended a three-day scabies training course from March 2 to 4. The training was provided at Ames, Iowa through arrangements with the Short Course Committee of the Division of Veterinary Medicine, Iowa State College. Members of the college faculty, State regulatory officials and representatives of the Animal Eradication Division of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service were instructors. Previous to this the ARS report states field employees have been trained using the facilities at the Animal Disease and Parasite Research Station at Albuquerque, New Mexico. Since October, 1958 more than 90 individuals have had the opportunity to receive this training.

Face Brand . . .

(*Continued from page* 18)

tems were used in selecting replacement ewes at weanling age. Both systems appeared about equally effective.

Phase II. Work is now being continued with the two groups and all ewe lambs are being kept for three years (two lamb crops). Both methods of selection are used and the efficiency of selection at weanling age, 18 months, and 24 months can be checked by actual performance data. The results should indicate whether the touch system or index system is most efficient and whether younger lambs and twins are discriminated against at selection time in the fall. Preliminary results show twins and younger lambs tend to catch up with the singles and older lambs at three years of age. Ewes appear to reach their maximum wool production at three years of age and maximum body weight at four years of age.

In conclusion let me point out that while experiments in wool science are costly, we must procure results that are reliable indices upon which to recommend the adoption of specific improved practices by wool growers.

Always before us is the criterion of practicability in solving the problems of the wool producing industry of this country.

Fall Elections Change Commission Make-Up

FALL elections made certain changes necessary in the membership of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission. Representative Harold R. Collier of Illinois has replaced John H. Rhodes of Arizona. Other House members are Mrs. Gracie Pfost of Idaho, Al Ullman of Oregon and John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania.

Senators Henry C. Dworshak of Idaho and Thomas E. Martin of Iowa have been appointed to replace Arthur V. Watkins of Utah and Frank Barrett of Wyoming. Senators Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon and Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico are the other members from the Senate.

The seven citizens selected by President Eisenhower to serve as members of this Commission are: Lawrence W. Rockefeller, New York, chairman; Joseph W. Penfold of Izaak Walton League, Denver; Bernard Orell of Weyerhaeuser Lumber Corporation, Tacoma, Washington; Katherine Jackson Lee of American Forestry Association, Peterborough, New Hampshire; Samuel T. Danna, professor emeritus of University of Michigan at Ann Arbor; M. Frederik Smith of Prudential Life Insurance Company, Short Hills, New Jersey, and Chester S. Wilson, lawyer and former Minnesota conservation commissioner, Stillwater, Minnesota.

This Commission is completing its organization now for making a study of the Nation's recreational resources. The 25-man advisory council has not yet been named.

Tariff Commission Sets Carpet Wool, Papermaker Felt Hearing

THE U.S. Tariff Commission has announced a public hearing on carpet wool and papermakers' felts beginning June 30, 1959 in Washington, D.C.

These hearings follow a two-year study of grades and qualities of wool imported into the United States for use in the manufacturing of carpets and papermakers' felts and of domestic wools similar in character and grade.

Such a study was ordered by the Senate Finance Committee when a compromise was agreed to by domestic wool producers on legislation that permits wools not finer than 46's (with a 10 percent tolerance of 48's) to come into this country duty free when used for carpet purposes (Public Law 85-418).

Parties wishing to make an appearance in this hearing should notify the Secretary, U.S. Tariff Commission, Washington 25, D.C. at least three days before the date of the hearing.

The champion fat lambs of the San Antonio livestock exhibition were auctioned for $1,000 each. Shown kneeling above with the champion lamb which each consigned are, left to right: fine wooled, Mickey Weaver, Melvin, Texas; fine wooled crossbred, Bill Stavley, Sanderson, Texas; medium wooled, James Atchley, Sentinel, Texas, and Southdown, Roy Gregg, Plainview, Texas. Shown standing, from left to right, are the buyers; Omer Elliot, Gunter Hotel; Edgar Tobin, Jr., Edgar Tobin Aerial Surveys; Tom Powell, Hilton Hotel, and Charles Roark, Handy-Andy Super Markets.

Winners Listed at Houston, San Antonio Stock Shows

SAN ANTONIO STOCK SHOW

San Antonio, Texas
February 13-22, 1959

The four top lambs of this show were exhibited by: Fine Wool Lamb—Mickey Weaver, Melvin, Texas; Fine Wool Crossbred Lamb—Bill Stavley, Sanderson, Texas; Medium Wool Lamb—James Atchley, Sentinel, Texas, and Southdown Lamb—Roy Gregg, Plainview, Texas.

The lambs were purchased respectively by the Gunter Hotel, Edgar Tobin Aeriel Surveys, Hilton Hotel and Handy-Andy Super Markets, for $1,000 each.

In the Wool and Mohair division of the show, Anna Rose Glasscock, Sonora, Texas, won the Grand Champion Fleece of Wool and the Champion Fleece of Purebred Wool awards, while Howard Hay, Bandera, Texas, won the Grand Champion Fleece of Mohair trophy.

HOUSTON FAT STOCK SHOW

Houston, Texas
February 25-March 8, 1959

BREED CHAMPIONS

Southdowns: — Champion ram and champion ewe: Duron Howard, Mulhall, Oklahoma.

Dorsets:—Champion ram: Mike Priddy, Winters, Texas. Champion ewe: Dorset Haven Farms, Kremlin, Oklahoma.

Corriedales: — Champion ram and champion ewe: Ray Yantis & Son, Findley, Illinois.

Rambouillets:—Champion ram and champion ewe: Tom Glasscock, Sonora, Texas.

Hampshires: — Champion ram and champion ewe: Armentrout & Conley, Norborne, Missouri.

Suffolks:—Champion ram and champion ewe: Athenia Farms, Grand Prairie, Texas.

Montadales: — Champion ram: John Thomas May, Gallion, Alabama. Champion ewe: Audry Head, Snyder, Texas.

Shropshires:—Champion ram: Henry Moehle & Sons, Enid, Oklahoma. Champion ewe: Double "O" Stock Farm, Marion, Indiana.

Delaine - Merinos: — Champion ram and champion ewe: Anna Rose Glasscock, Sonora, Texas.

Columbias: — Champion ram and champion ewe: L. A. Nordan, Boerne, Texas.

Cheviots:—Champion ram and champion ewe: Alvin Helms, Belleville, Illinois.

ENTER YOUR BEST FLEECES in the 7th NATIONAL WOOL SHOW

The seventh annual National Wool Show will be held in the Coliseum, Ogden, Utah, August 18, 19 and 20, as an added feature of the National Ram Sale. Entries in the show are open to all commercial and purebred sheep raisers as well as agricultural colleges. Judging will take place on August 19th and awards will be presented at the Ram Sale that day.

Manager of the show is Russell R. Keetch, Sheep and Wool Specialist, Utah State University, Logan, Utah. Show judges will be announced later. Following are rules and general information for the show:

RULES AND REGULATIONS

This is a show to encourage the production of better wool, to promote better handling and preparation for market, and to educate the growers to the system of grading.

The following shall apply to fleeces in the show: (a) Each fleece must have been shorn in 1959; (b) Each fleece shall represent not more than 12 months' growth, except in the case of yearling fleeces, when 16 months' growth will be allowed; (c) In case of controversy concerning the number of months' growth of any fleece, the acknowledged rate of monthly growth of wool from different breeds and types of sheep shall be used as a guide by the judges; (d) No wether fleeces shall be included.

If judges determine that any fleece is in the wrong class, they have authority to place the fleece in its proper class.

NUMBER OF ENTRIES

Two to each class and no fleece can compete in more than one class, except for champion or special prizes.

PREPARATION OF FLEECES

Fleeces should be properly tied with paper fleece twine and wrapped with paper or cloth to prevent their becoming soiled. A paper carton is excellent for shipping.

The wool will be judged on the following points:

1. Quality of fineness (in the breed classification only; that is the fineness must be typical of the breed represented).
2. Uniformity of fineness and staple length among the various parts of the fleece.
3. Length and strength of staple.
4. Estimated clean weight.
5. Condition.
6. Character, including crimp, color, softness, and general attractiveness.

HOW TO SHIP FLEECES TO THE SHOW

Fleeces may be shipped express prepaid, addressed to Livestock Show Coliseum, Ogden, Utah, or they may be brought in by the exhibitor. In either case, fleeces must arrive at the Coliseum not later than 2 p.m., Monday, August 17, 1959.

Arrangements should be made by exhibitors to pick up their fleeces at the close of the show the afternoon of August 20. All fleeces left on the grounds after the show will be returned to the exhibitor express collect unless the exhibitor gives the management permission to sell the fleece and remit.

Clip Out This Entry Blank

SEVENTH ANNUAL NATIONAL WOOL SHOW ENTRY

To be held at Livestock Show Coliseum, Ogden Stock Yards, August 18, 19 and 20, 1959

I desire to enter.....fleeces of wool shorn in 1959 in the seventh annual National Wool Show. Please send me shipping and labeling instructions.

Name.....

Address.....

Mail this blank to: National Wool Growers Association, 414 Crandall Building, Salt Lake City 1, Utah.

CLASSES IN 1959 WOOL SHOW

Division I. Purebred Classes

(R. denotes ram fleece; E. denotes ewe fleece)

Class No.			
1.	Rambouillet	R.	In each of these classes, First prize $5.00; Second prize $2.50; Third and Fourth, ribbon awards.
2.	Rambouillet	E.	
3.	Corriedale	R.	
4.	Corriedale	E.	
5.	Columbia	R.	
6.	Columbia	E.	
7.	Panama	R.	
8.	Panama	E.	
9.	Targhee	R.	
10.	Targhee	E.	
11.	Other Breeds	R.	
12.	Other Breeds	E.	

Division II. Market Classes (Range)

(Ewe fleeces only)

13.	64's to 80's (Fine)	In each of these classes, First prize $5.00; Second prize $3.00; Third and Fourth, ribbon awards.
14.	60's (Half-blood)	
15.	56-58's (⅜ blood)	
16.	48-50's (¼ blood)	

Division III. Market Classes (Farm)

(Ewe fleeces only)

17.	64's to 80's (Fine)	In each of these classes, First prize $5.00; Second prize $3.00; Third and Fourth, ribbon awards.
18.	60's (Half-blood)	
19.	56-58's (⅜ blood)	
20.	48-50's (¼ blood)	

TROPHY AWARDS

In addition to cash and ribbon awards named above, the following six trophies will be given: Grand Champion and Reserve Champion fleeces of the show; Best Rambouillet, Columbia, Panama, and Targhee fleeces.

GENERAL INFORMATION

I. Show fleeces are usually selected from the shearing floor. Usually you can make a better comparison when several shorn fleeces are saved. Then you can weigh and test all possible entries toward your final selection. Perhaps your County Agricultural Agent will give you assistance in selection of entries.

II. **Factors to consider in selection:**
   1. **Length of staple:** These are the classifications: fine-2½ inches; ½ blood-3 inches; and ⅜ blood-3½ inches. Additional length is desirable.
   2. **Fleece weight:** 11 pounds for ewe lambs, 12 pounds for mature ewes and 16 pounds for rams.
   3. **Select clean fleeces.**
   4. **Consider fiber strength**—(indicated by hand-testing).
   5. **Freedom from defects,** such as excessive hairiness, kemp, burrs, etc.
   6. **Desirable processing qualities,** uniformity in length and fineness, boldness and evenness of crimp, color, softness, freedom from second cuts, and general attractiveness.

III. Care must be taken to roll the fleece into a neat bundle with the flesh side out. The show fleeces should be loosely rolled in a careful manner, using two strings if necessary to make an attractive unit.

IV. Box or wrap show fleece carefully and be sure to label, indicating sex and age, months of fleece growth, name and address of grower. Fleeces from purebred animals should be labeled as to breed. Other fleeces, labeled Market Class (Range) or Market Class (Farm).

LAMB market report— Mar.

Small, Steady Price Increases Spark Hope for Strengthening Market

March 26, 1959

SMALL but continued boosts in slaughter lamb prices during March increased optimism within some sheep industry ranks that the current lamb market might be starting to work itself out of the price mire in which it has been bogged down since late last year.

Slaughter lamb prices, which turned down in late October, leveled off after the first of the year. During February prices, though stable, recovered little from the two and one-half month price decline suffered during the end of 1958. As February ended, slaughter lamb prices were $4 to $5 lower than those of a year before.

The March lamb market followed a see-saw course. As the month opened, prices advanced slightly, continuing to do so until reaching a peak during the period of March 12 to 16. Then, as escape from the price mire seemed eminent, the market suddenly slipped back. After the sharp decline, prices came back somewhat during the final week of the month. Though end-of-the-month prices were not as high as they had been during mid-month, they were 50 cents to $2 higher at most terminal outlets than when the month had opened. Despite the increase current March prices still trailed those of a year ago by $1 to $4 at major market centers.

The March price increase came despite constantly large market receipts. Weekly receipts at terminal centers remained relatively stable for the month, but were 20 to 30 percent greater than March 1958 receipts. By the end of March, 1959 some 425,000 more lambs were slaughtered than during the same period a year ago.

Price gains during the month were made principally on lambs weighing 110 pounds and under, with heavier lambs still being discounted—in some instances drastically. Heavier lambs, continually under pressure from buyers, were subject to discounts of 50 cents to $3 at most major marketing centers.

The first spattering of spring lambs also hit terminal outlets during the month. They were bringing prices of 50 cents to $4 higher than were old crop lambs.

As has been the case since the first of the year, prime grade slaughter lambs were again scarce during March. This was indicated by the fact that U. S. Department of Agriculture market reports failed to carry quotations for prime grade offerings at any terminal outlets.

On March 26 choice grade old-crop slaughter lambs were selling at the following prices:

Chicago, $20 to $21.25; Denver, $19.50 to $20; Fort Worth, $18.50 to $19; Ogden, $19; Omaha, $20 to $21.50, and Stockton $18 to $18.50. In each instance, the higher price quoted was for wooled offerings and the lower price for shorn lambs, except at Ft. Worth, where both shorn and wooled offerings sold in the same price range.

Meanwhile choice graded springers were bringing the following prices at terminal outlets:

Chicago $21; Ft. Worth, $19.50 to $22.50; Los Angeles, $21; Ogden $20 to $21; Omaha $20 to $22.50; Portland, $23 to $24, and Stockton $21 to $21.50.

On March 26, good and choice graded old-crop slaughter lambs were bringing the following prices at major lamb markets:

Chicago, $19.50 to $21; Denver, $18.50 to $19.50; Ft. Worth, $18 to $19; Los Angeles, $19 to $20.50; Ogden, $17.50 to $18.50; Omaha $19.75 to $21; Portland, $18 to $19, and Stockton $16 to $18. Here, as with choice grade offerings, the higher price was paid for wooled offerings at all markets except Ft. Worth, where both wooled and shorn offerings sold at the same price.

Good and choice grade springers were not as numerous as choice grade spring lambs. They were marketed only at Ft. Worth, Ogden and Omaha. At Ft. Worth good and choice grade spring slaughter lambs brought $19.50 to $22.50; at Ogden a single load brought $20, and at Omaha another single load brought $21.50.

Slaughter ewe prices followed an erratic pattern during the month, showing decreases of $1.50 to increases of $1 at the various terminal outlets.

At the end of the month slaughter ewe prices were in the following relationship to the figure at which they had opened the period:

Chicago, 50 cents to $1 higher; Denver, steady to 50 cents lower; Ft. Worth, steady to 25 cents lower; Los Angeles, $2 to $3 lower; Ogden, steady; Omaha, steady; Portland, steady; and Stockton $1 lower.

Feeder lamb prices also varied considerably during the month. At Denver they were $1 lower at the end of March; at Ft. Worth 50 cents lower; at Omaha 25 cents to 75 cents higher; Portland 50 cents to $1 lower; and Stockton steady.

Good and choice graded feeder lambs moved in a March price range of $14 to $21.50. The low price was paid at Stockton on March 16, while the high was recorded at Omaha on March 23 for a load of spring feeders. The average feeder price during the month was about $17 to $19.25.

Only a few medium and good grade feeders were offered at terminal outlets. These moved in a $15 to $18.25 price range. All of the transactions in these grades took place at Denver and Stockton.

The dressed lamb market at New York, just as the live lamb market, followed a sea-saw pattern during March. Prices increased slowly during the early part of the month, reaching their peak between March 12 and 19. Afterward they again dropped slightly. The end of the month dressed price decline was felt

Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

	1959	1958
Week Ended	Mar. 14	Mar. 15
Total U.S. Inspected Slaughter to Date	2,540,724	2,123,734
Slaughter at Major Centers	228,220	197,758
Chicago Average Lamb Prices (Wooled):		
Choice and Prime	$21.38*	$23.68
Good and Choice	21.32	22.68
New York Av. Western Dressed Lamb Prices:		
Prime, 45-55 pounds	44.00	48.50
Choice, 45-55 pounds	42.85	47.45
Good, All Weights	41.10	46.30

Federally Inspected Slaughter—February

	1959	1958
Cattle	1,219,000	1,309,000
Calves	377,000	468,000
Hogs	5,686,000	4,453,000
Sheep and Lambs	1,080,000	940,000

*Choice only; no quotations on Prime.

mainly by heavier carcasses, which were under almost constant pressure and moved slowly only after sharp discounts.

As March closed, lighter weight choice and prime lamb carcasses were selling at $46, some $1 to $2 higher than they had opened the month. Heavier weight good and choice graded carcasses were bringing $37 to $38.50, about $1 lower than in early March.

Western dressed carcasses of choice and prime grades sold at New York City on March 26 at $38.50 to $46. Good and choice grade carcasses were bringing $37 to $46 on the same day.

Country Sales and Contracting

ARIZONA

Early March: Some 5,000 head of choice and prime, 100-pound spring lambs contracted for late March delivery at $20 f.o.b. weighing point and with a two percent shrink. An additional six loads of mostly good old crop slaughter lambs, with an end of choice and weighing 105 to 112 pounds, brought $17 to $17.50.

Mid March: Around 4,350 good and choice old crop lambs, weighing between 95 and 102 pounds, sold at $17.25 to $17.50. These lambs were mixed slaughter lambs and feeders with No. 2 pelts. An additional 800 head of the same type lambs, but with No. 3 pelts and weighing 97 pounds, went at $16.75. Contracted for delivery current to April 15 at $21 to $21.25 were 32,600 mostly choice with varying degrees of prime spring lambs weighing 90 to 100 pounds.

CALIFORNIA

Early March: In the Imperial Valley at least 45 loads of good and choice old crop lambs, weighing 112 to 120 pounds with No. 1 pelts or better, sold at $18.50 to $18.75. Some of those at $18.50 sold with a weight stipulation of 10 cents per hundred weight discount for each pound over 115 pounds.

In the Bakersfield area three bands of spring lambs, totaling around 3,000 head, contracted at $21 straight across, f.o.b. ranch after an overnight stand. These lambs were mostly choice and prime and weighed 100 to 107 pounds. Delivery started the week of March 9 and concluded by Easter. In the Fresno area reports indicated the sale of several loads of spring lambs for pre-Easter delivery at $20.50. In the Imperial Valley 46 loads of good to mostly choice, 113- to 118-pound shorn slaughter lambs with No. 1 pelts or better brought $18.50 to $18.75. The bulk of this sale went at $18.50 for weights under 115 pounds; a few loads of over 115 pounds were discounted 50 cents per hundred weight straight across. Also in the Imperial Valley one load of near 111-pound, good to mostly choice shorn slaughter lambs brought $19 on a delivered to plant basis.

Mid March: Fully 30,000 spring lambs were sold or contracted for March to early April delivery at $20.50 to $21.50. These springers were expected to be choice or better and chiefly under 105 pounds. Of the 30,000 lambs, some 6,700 went in a $21.25 to $21.50 price range. In the Sacramento Valley a couple of loads of spring lambs brought $20. In the northwestern San Joaquin and southern Sacramento Valleys the following sales were reported: one load of choice slaughter lambs with fall shorn pelts at $19.50; two loads of good to choice slaughter lambs, mainly with No. 2 pelts, at $18.75, and a few clean up lambs grading utility and good at $17.

In the Imperial Valley during the middle portion of the month, at least 88 loads of good and choice old crop offerings, with No. 1 pelts or better, moved at $18.50 to $18.75. Some of the loads selling at $18.50, carried a weight stipulation of 10 cents per hundred weight discount for each pound over 115 pounds. In northern California three loads of old crop slaughter lambs brought $18.75 to $19.50.

Late March: A few loads of Sacramento Valley springs lambs sold on a fat basis at $22. The bulk of sales and contracting activities, however, took place from Tracy southward and involved some 50,000 to 60,000 head. In the Tracy area several strings of good and choice springers sold on a fat only basis at $20.50 to $21.25. In the Blythe area a string of some 8,500 lambs, reported choice with a prime end and weighing 100 pounds sold at $21. In the same area several bunches of mixed good and choice fats and feeders, as well as some straight feeders, moved at $18.50 to $20.25. In the Imperial Valley at least 15 loads of good and choice old crop offerings with No. 1 pelt or better sold at $18.50 to $19.

COLORADO

Early March: Good to mostly choice, 97- to 117-pound wooled lambs bulked at $18.75 to $19.75. Also moved were several loads of the same type lambs, but weighing 112- to 125-pounds, at $18 to $18.75, and two loads of choice 106- to 109-pound clipped lambs with No. 1 pelts at $19. Some of these lambs were delivered and weighed at Denver, others were f.o.b. rail loading point with a three or four percent shrink.

Mid March: In northern Colorado sales were confirmed on 23 loads of fed lambs. Choice wooled offerings weighing between 105 and 117 pounds moved at $19.50 to $21.

IDAHO

Early March: Several loads of high good to mostly choice, 100-to 114-pound wooled lambs were reported sold at $19 to $20. All of these were f.o.b. with a four percent shrink.

Mid March: Nearly three loads of mostly good 100- to 115-pound lambs, with recently shorn to No. 1 pelts, moved in clean up sales at $16 to $17.50. Some 150 shorn slaughter ewes were also reported sold, with culls going at $3, utilities at $5, and good to low choice offerings at $7, all f.o.b. with four percent shrink.

MONTANA

Early March: In northwestern Montana some 1,350 head of good yearling whitefaced bred ewes sold at $30 each f.o.b. for immediate delivery. In the south central sector of the State 2,000 head of mostly choice whitefaced ewe lambs, rough wintered and estimated around 97 pounds, turned for immediate delivery at $23 per hundred weight.

Mid March: In northwestern Montana a single load of mostly choice 107-pound wooled lambs brought $18.50, delivered. In the southwestern area about 2,800 head of sheep, closely sorted two-year old whitefaced ewes, bred to whitefaced bucks and weighing around 140 pounds, turned for immediate delivery to go out of State at $34 per head.

NEW MEXICO

Mid March: In the Roswell area a few clipped fat lambs brought $17 to $17.50 and a few feeders moved at $16 to $16.50.

OREGON

Early March: Some 1,300 Willamette Valley offerings, grading 75 percent choice and with No. 2 to fall shorn pelts and weighing under 110 pounds, sold on a delivered to Portland basis at $18.50 to $19. Two loads of the same type lambs but with No. 1 to 3 pelts and weighing 105 pounds sold at $20 to be delivered to Washington State. An additional load of lambs with No. 2 to fall shorn pelts and weighing 118 pounds turned at $16.50 delivered to Portland. Sold on a four percent shrink basis were two loads of lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts, weighing 105 to 107 pounds and grading 75 percent choice, at $18.50 to $19, and 2,000 Willamette Valley offerings, bringing some $16.75 on No. 3 pelt lambs to $18.50 on 110-pound wooled offerings.

Mid March: Some 1,200 old crop Willamette Valley offerings, grading good and choice and including some off rye grass, moved at $18.50 to $19.25. An additional two loads of mostly choice old crop offerings with No. 2

pelts turned in north central Oregon at $19.50. Both of these transactions were on a delivered basis.

TEXAS

Early March: Reported sold in the Junction, Texas, area were several thousand lambs for late summer and fall delivery at 17 to 18 cents per pound. These included a sizeable string of straight muttons at 18 cents.

UTAH

Early March: A few loads of good and choice old crop wooled offerings weighing 110 pounds were reported sold at $18.50 to $19.00. In southern Utah some 2,000 clean ups brought $18.25.

WASHINGTON

Early March: Some five loads of high good to mostly choice 100-to 103-pound slaughter lambs with No. 2 pelts brought $18.50 to $19.50. Two loads of mostly choice 120-pound wooled offerings moved at $16.50. Both of these transactions were f.o.b. with a four percent shrink. The following sales were reported on a delivered basis: one load of good, 108-pound wooled lambs at $19.50; some 150 mostly choice, 100- to 108-pound wooled offerings at $18 to $18.75; several of the same type offerings weighing 135 pounds at $16.00, and 150 offerings weighing between 102 and 125 pounds with No. 2 and No. 3 pelts at $16 to $18.50.

Mid March: Some three loads of mostly choice, 90- to 99-pounds slaughter lambs with No. 1 and 2 pelts moved at $19.50 f.o.b. with a four percent shrink. Some 400 head of 90 percent choice wooled lambs, weighing 110 pounds, brought $18.50. A few choice 120-pound lambs turned at $16.50 and one band of mixed cull, utility and good grade wooled slaughter lambs, weighing 121 pounds, moved at $12, delivered.

WYOMING

Early March: Increased activity on slaughter lambs was noted in the Big Horn Basin area. Around 10 carloads of mostly choice wooled slaughter lambs weighing around 112 pounds and down, sold at $19.50 f.o.b. with three or four percent shrink, or at $20.25 delivered to Denver. Both deals carried a 15-cent penalty per pound for each pound over the buyer stipulated maximum. An additional 900 head of fleshy shearing lambs, weighing around 102 pounds, moved at $19.50 to $20.50 on a delivered to Denver basis.

Early 1959 Lamb Crop Reported 'About Same as '58; Doing Well'

THE number of early lambs in the principal early lambing States is about the same as last year according to a report issued March 11 by the Crop Reporting Board of the Agricultural Marketing Service.

An earlier Crop Reporting Board release stated that the number of breeding ewes as of January 1 was up 4 percent over a year earlier in these States. However, a decrease in the proportion of ewes lambing early offset this increase.

In January, the growth and development of early lambs has been about normal. Feed grain and hay supplies have been adequate to plentiful in all the early lambing States.

The Southeastern States, Northwestern States and Missouri have been plagued with a considerable amount of cold, damp weather, however losses of early lambs were not excessive. Supplemental feeding has been rather heavy in most of these States.

New feed prospects are reasonably favorable except in parts of Texas and California where more moisture is needed to bring feed along.

Texas: Present indications point to an early lamb crop of about the same size as last year. The total lamb crop, however, will be larger than the 1958 crop, since breeding ewes numbers were up nine percent as of the first of the year. The proportion of ewes lambing early, however, will be below last year. Spring movement of lambs got under way late in February but peak marketing is not expected until the early part of May.

Arizona: Growth and development of early lambs has been excellent. There has been an ample supply of irrigation water which has resulted in better than average irrigated alfalfa and smaller grain pastures. The number of early lambs is expected to be about the same as last year.

California: The early lamb crop is expected to be smaller than last year, reflecting a four percent decline in breeding ewes. Present indications point to a lambing percentage and proportion of ewes lambing early as being about the same in 1958.

The mild open winter was generally favorable for lambing, but range feed has been short. Most ewes received supplemental feed and good lamb crops were dropped. Lack of green feed has slowed early development of lambs.

Old crop lambs are moving rapidly after a late start. Many of these are being discounted for heavy weights.

Northwestern States: The early lamb crop in the three important Northwestern States—Idaho, Oregon and Washington—is expected to be about the same as last year. Cold wet weather has not been particularly favorable, but losses have not been heavy.

In Idaho early lambing in the Southwest and South Central areas is nearly completed. Feed has been plentiful and the weather excellent. Ewes and lambs are in excellent condition and prospects are good for early range feed. Markets may be expected to reach their peak earlier than last year.

In Oregon hay and grain supplies are plentiful. Pastures in some of the southern and western counties are beginning to green up. Early lambs are generally in good condition.

In Washington, snow cover in the eastern area of the State and cold rainy weather in the western sector have not been ideal for lambing. Nevertheless, losses have been held to a minimum. Hay, silage, and feed grain supplies are abundant. In the western areas, snow cover will delay growth of grass and continued feeding will be necessary. Prospects for good soil moisture in summer range areas point to good grass growth, however.

Southeastern States: Reports from the three important Southeastern States—Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia—indicated early lamb crops will be about the same as those of 1958. The number of breeding ewes was down slightly at the start of the year, but this was offset by slightly higher lamb percentages and a slightly larger proportion of early lambing.

The market movement in this area will probably be normal to somewhat later than usual.

Missouri: the early lamb crop is expected to be about the same size as last year. Slightly higher ewe inventories have offset a decline in the number of ewes lambing early.

Down Under' . . .

(*Continued from page* 15)

4,000 ewes and 250 head of cattle. He paid approximately $500 a year property taxes. New Zealand has no tax on personal property, but it does have a very high income tax in the upper brackets. The government gets its share that way instead of through property.

This increased or high income tax bracket, in which most growers are grouped, has contributed considerably to the country's land improvement program, because sheepmen in truth, use their soil as a bank.

When times are good and growers have quite a bit of money, they pour a considerable amount of it into this soil improvement program. These improvements last several years and help carry growers through lean years which might lie ahead.

Improvement Spending High

Instead of paying the extra high income tax, sheepmen are very prone to spend considerable sums on the improvement of their soil.

The wool production in New Zealand is roughly about 500 million pounds. That figure came from the country's Bureau of Statistics, and, I think, includes all of the pulled wools obtained from slaughtered lambs. However, the yield per head is approximately nine pounds and that is quite remarkable when it is considered that most wools will yield from 60 to 90 percent. In fact, some New Zealand wools are almost in the same classification as our scoured wools.

Sheepmen also do quite a job of packaging wools. We did not have the good fortune to see a shearing operation, but one of the musts on every sheep station is the wool shed.

Handle Few Sheep

It is a small barnlike affair where shearing is done. The sheds are not equipped to handle a large number of shearers at one time. I think the largest we saw was about a four man shearing crew capacity.

However, these sheds are used to put ewes in overnight to keep them dry and out of the rain. Each shed has grated floors and is quite elaborate.

Every shed has a wool table. Each fleece, as it is shorn, is spread on the table. It is skirted, the neck piece removed, rolled again, and, in some cases, classified, depending upon the size of the operation.

Some of the larger operators have a wool classer working right in the shed and each fleece is classified as it is shorn. The smaller operator generally goes through the skirting process, then bags his wool and sends it to a wool warehouses where it is classified. Wool is baled. That is, it is a pressed affair that comes up with about a 350-pound package, in a sack, but in baled form.

Lambing Percentages Vary

Lambing percentages seem to vary considerably in New Zealand. People in sown pasture areas seem to be quite happy with a 90 percent lambing, while in range areas lambing percentages may be down as low as 60 percent. It is primarily in the range areas, where the wool breeds are kept, that the lambing percentage is low. In these areas, sheepmen also keep practically all of their ewe lambs and, in turn, sell their five-year-old ewes to the fat lamb raisers.

The main disease problem, as far as sheep are concerned, is foot rot. However, growers seem to live with it fairly well. They treat all of their sheep individually at least twice a year and bring them in for treatment.

Sheepmen have little squeeze chutes, something like our cattle squeeze chutes, in which they put the individual sheep. After the sheep is in the chute, the grower turns it upside down and treats all the hooves. Sheep are also run through foot baths much the same way as we do. On the foot baths, the only difference is that many of the growers use formaldehyde, under the trade name of Formalin, to treat foot rot instead of our bluestone (Copper Sulphate). Others still use the bluestone process and apply bluestone throughout their corrals and yards in order to keep the disease under control. They have a practice of eliminating chronic foot rot animals in their herds, and seem to get along quite well with the disease.

Parasites, too, are a problem. However, growers also seem to get along fairly well with that problem. Generally they do not treat their ewes and lambs more than twice a year. Of course, when sheep get wormy a little more often growers treat them more often. Normally, however, parasite treatment is about a twice-a-year operation. Animals are also sprayed and dusted to control ticks and other wool lice.

No Predator Problem

New Zealand doesn't have much of a predatory animal problem. Originally, there were no mammals in New Zealand whatsoever. Every mammal was introduced from some place beyond its borders. Therefore, there are no coyotes or wild dogs. The only animal that does give sheepmen some trouble is the wild pig, which was introduced by a Captain Cook many years ago. In some of the hilly, rough country growers say they lose some lambs to these wild pigs.

Rabbits are now very much under control. Several years ago, New Zealand seemed to have a tremendous rabbit problem. However, farmers have made a strenuous effort to reduce rabbit numbers. They are determined not only to reduce rabbits, but exterminate them.

There are rabbit boards throughout the country. These boards are composed of farmers of an area, who dictate the activities of the rabbit control groups.

Rabbit control is very highly subsidized by the government and, of course, there is some assessment to the growers themselves for carrying on this program. There are not many rabbits left.

Deer Termed 'Pests'

Livestockmen also classify deer as pests. There are quite a number of deer, especially in the ranges that are near bush country. Anyone may, at any time, hunt deer. As a matter of fact, men have even been paid to kill deer.

New Zealand has done and is doing a great deal of research work on seed production. We had the opportunity to visit the large college on the northern island, which is New Zealand's agricultural school. Here researchers continually develop new varieties of clover and rye grasses, which will give heavier yields and grow more favorably during the winter months.

Land costs in New Zealand, as here, are relatively high. I think, of course, they vary according to the carrying capacity of a particular area. But a good range, well sown in clover and other pastures, would sell for approximately $500 an acre.

Land Costs High

Land is the sheepman's biggest investment. I think, too, these high land costs have contributed to the expansion of production capacities. Growers can achieve about the same thing by doubling their carrying capacity as they could if they were to buy another farm that would carry just as much as the farm they currently own.

Labor costs, on a per head unit, are much less than ours. A man with about 4,000 sheep and 200 head of cattle will usually have two hired men—generally married men who live on the spread. Each man receives a little less than $40 a week. He is furnished a home, and, I think, generally furnished with meat, potatoes and milk. However, all in all, labor on a per head unit, espe-

Down Under' . . .

cially as we know it in our range areas in the West, is much less than ours.

While we were in New Zealand, we had the opportunity to visit two stud ram sales. One was strictly a Romney stud sale; the other was a Romney and Southdown stud sale.

We were quite impressed with the willingness of sheepmen to pay what we would term high prices for outstanding rams. A ram at one sale sold for a little over $6,000. Another breeder who had six rams entered in the sale averaged $3,200 for his rams. The emphasis is still on wool breeds. Southdown studs sell for much less than Romneys.

In summary, I would like to mention New Zealand's potential. Of course, I have no crystal ball and there are many factors to be considered.

First, one grower told me that cattle production may become more profitable than lamb production; however, this is a very remote possibility. At the moment, I can't see how that could be true. New Zealand cattle are all grass-fed. Growers have no feed grains. Other than for the boning type of cattle there would be few markets open to New Zealand beef other than Great Britain.

Another point against the increasing importance of cattle is that an acceleration in prices, especially on wool, would contribute heavily to the expansion in sheep numbers. The more growers receive for wool, the more they would reinvest in clearing and fertilization; and I know that would contribute much to sheep increases.

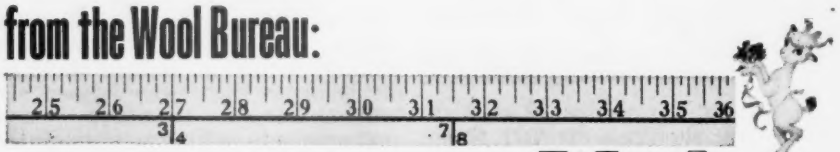
Third, I would say, regardless of wool prices, there will be a steady increase of sheep production in New Zealand. That country's growers are very progressive. Just following the methods they use now, over a period of years there should be a substantial increase in sheep numbers.

Fourth, up to now, lamb raisers, especially fat lamb raisers, have raised lambs for the specifications of the Smithfield Market.

However, if they should develop a market other than New Zealand—and I refer primarily to our own market here—they could raise lambs that would heavily increase their tonnage. By that, I mean a Suffolk or Hampshire type ram which would give them a much bigger meat product that matures at a later date than the little Southdowns they now use.

These Southdowns mature early, become fatted, have a small carcass size, and tend to be overly fat. But if New Zealand would change to one of our breeds, I think it could increase its tonnage of lamb about 25 percent without necessarily increasing the number of animals.

from the Wool Bureau:



nothing measures up to Wool

SCIENCE has achieved an "easy care" performance feature for wool that is new to the fabric—and very important to the budget minded housekeeper.

Wool slacks can now be made with permanent creases and wool skirts can have permanent pleats. Men's trousers made with the permanent crease are presently being marketed and women's skirts and dresses with permanent pleats will be available in many lines of fall 1959 fashions.

In demonstrations conducted in New York City early in March, models wearing treated and untreated skirts and trousers had their garments sprayed with water; then dried.

The result: untreated garments lost their creases and pleats; treated garments looked like new with sharp creases and pleats. No pressing equipment was used.

THE stronger emphasis being placed on fashion apparel merchandising by the F. W. Woolworth Company is supported by the chain's continued sponsorship of the "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest.

In the National finals of the 1958 contest held at Portland, Oregon, late in January, G. M. Maddox, Director of Personnel and Public Relations for Woolworth on the West Coast, announced the company's continued sponsorship of the contest. The 1959 contest will mark the 10th consecutive year that F. W. Woolworth Co. has sponsored the event.

In making the sponsorship announcement, Mr. Maddox indicated that all stores in the contest area will give strong backing to the 1959 event. The F. W. Woolworth Company makes a major contribution to the contest by paying travel expenses for State contest winners to the National finals.

THE addition of Texas to the "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest in 1959 brings the total number of States in the contest to 20.

Mrs. O. T. Evans, President of the Women's Auxiliary of the National Wool Growers Association, spent a week in New York City during the latter part of February working on contest details with the Wool Bureau.

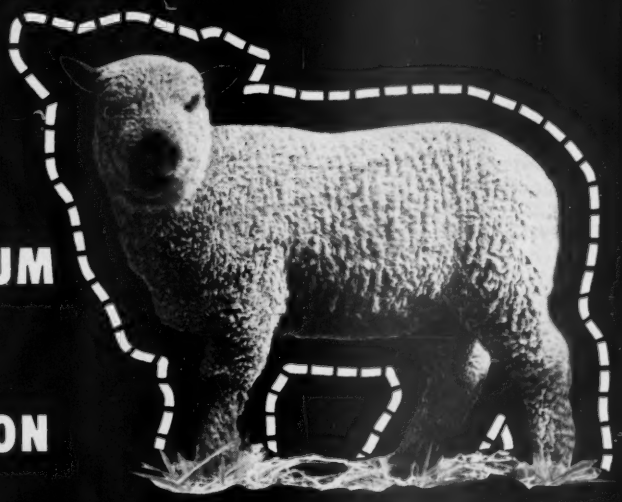
Joan Hull who directs the contest for the Wool Bureau, says that a plan has been developed for improved co-ordination of the contest with home economic programs conducted throughout contest areas.

EARLY this year the Wool Bureau sent copies of a leaflet entitled "Words About Spring Wools for 1959" to wool fabric merchandisers throughout the country.

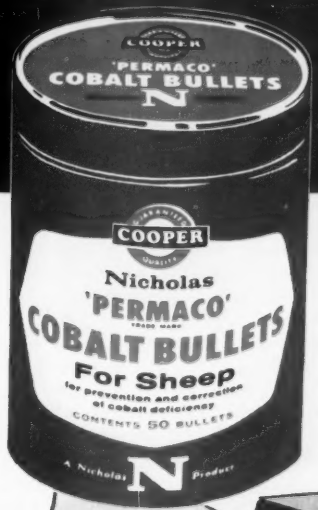
The leaflet describes the qualities of wool and gives merchandisers insight as to the textures, colors, patterns, weaves and weights which will be available in spring wool fabrics. The leaflet is designed to increase the merchandisers' acceptance and promotion of wool products.

is cobalt insufficiency reducing your profits?

new COBALT BULLET ASSURES MAXIMUM GROWTH AND WOOL PRODUCTION



'PERMACO' COBALT BULLETS... the only one-dose way to provide cobalt continuously



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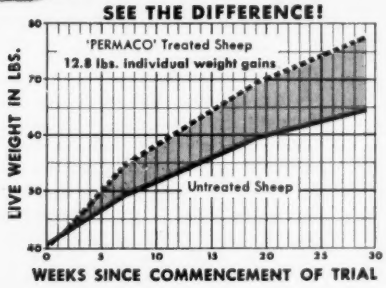

All sheep *must* have a continuous supply of cobalt to assist in producing Vitamin B_{12}, necessary for good health and maximum growth. Even a borderline deficiency of this essential trace mineral can reduce your meat and wool profits.

The amazing new 'PERMACO' COBALT BULLET remains in the sheep's paunch for at least 12 months, gradually releasing the daily cobalt requirement. Just *one* dosing combats the "hidden hunger" or cobalt insufficiency which is not always apparent to the sheepman. The chart above shows the big difference in weight gains in one of many controlled field trials. "Bulleted" sheep—in an area not regarded as being cobalt deficient—had 12.8 lbs. average weight gain over undosed animals. Discovered in Australia, sheep-raising center of the world, the cobalt bullet is now released to American sheepmen.

MAKE THIS EASY TRIAL ON YOUR FLOCK

See for yourself how much more profitable your flock could be. Test by dosing part of your flock with 'PERMACO' COBALT BULLETS. You will actually be able to see the improvement in cobalt-deficient treated sheep. Order 'PERMACO' COBALT BULLETS from your usual supplier, *now!*

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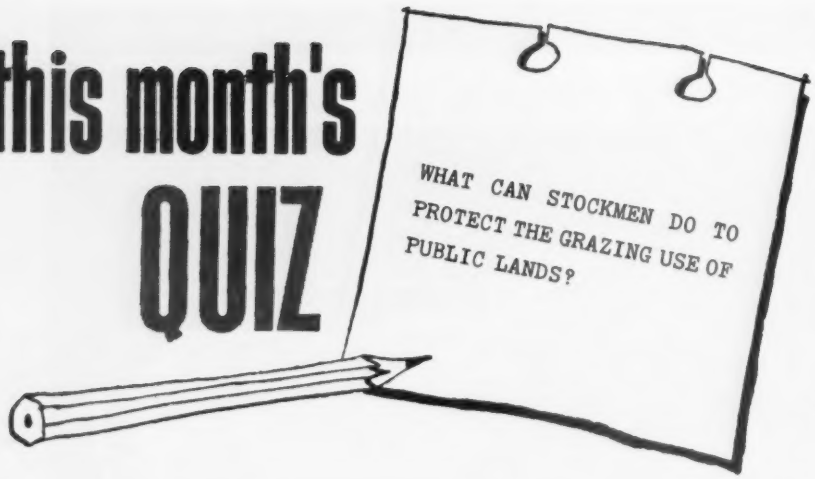
this month's QUIZ



Eastern writers have done a lot of harm to stockmen's rights on National Forest lands. Their claims are not well founded. They don't know what they are talking about.

These writers and the various sportsmens' groups all make the same statement: "Sheepmen and cattlemen have ruined our forests and other government lands." They do not offer any proof to back up their claims.

I had a permit to run sheep on the Rio Grande National Forest, near the headwaters of the Rio Grande River, for 23 years. Part of the time I ran two bands of sheep. I am 82 years old and three years ago sold my range outfit.

Sheep go on most of our National Forests in Colorado, Wyoming, Montana and Utah sometime during July. They stay on the forest about two months. Lambs weigh 40 to 45 pounds upon going into the forest. Upon coming out, they will average 85 to 100 pounds. Some 60 to 75 percent of those coming off the forest lands are fat lambs and immediately go to slaughter.

A 400-pound whitefaced calf entering the National Forest will leave those lands a few months later, fat and ready for slaughter.

As the late Al Smith used to say: "Let's look at the record."

It takes a lot of fine pasture to fatten lambs and cattle for market. These animals going to slaughter, in turn, add considerable wealth to the Nation's economy, literally paying for themselves and the National Forest pasture they have used.

As to the claims of wilderness groups that forest and range lands could be better used for recreation, I would like to point out that in Texas and Oklahoma, starting about July 1st, many sportsmen and recreationists move in on the areas of the Rio Grande and Conejos rivers. Most of these people camp along the rivers and small creeks —any place that they can drive with their cars. You seldom see any of them in the high range country.

Close the National Forests in the Western States to cattle and sheepmen and their use will be reserved for only a few individuals. Furthermore, many of the members of wildlife and sportsmen's groups which are attempting to have forests closed to livestock, do not realize the damage which would be done to the Nation's economy if their efforts bear fruit. If they succeed, many of them will be looking for new jobs in the fall instead of looking for deer and elk.

National Forest users also pay a considerable amount of taxes to keep schools going and to furnish other funds for the financing of Government projects. Close the forests to sheep and cattle and packers and meat retailers will be forced to lay off many men.

—E. C. Hutchinson
LaJara, Colorado

From State Presidents . . .

(*Continued from page* 21)

He actually believed in his promotions. He is completely typical of the several boosters who existed in every community on the Plains.

The book includes some far-fetched tales about robbers to make it seem more plausible. This makes the book more plausible than the reality. The reality was completely implausible but it really happened. Anyone who thinks differently either wasn't there or wasn't in touch with what happened.

Anyway, if you know the Great Plains, read the book. It is the best thing I have seen on the subject.

—Dan Fulton, President
Montana Wool Growers Association

THE Fish and Wildlife Service and sports people started out several years ago to get us out of the forest reserve, mainly for selfish reasons. They have been very successful.

They are now seeking to oust us from BLM ranges so that they will be able to spend their leisure hours in easy hunting and fishing and living a life of luxury and pleasure.

These organizations spend vast sums of money in Washington, lobbying in an effort to make their scheme a success. It seems to me, we must organize the livestock industry more thoroughly and make a concerted movement through our western Senators to head off the efforts of sportsmen and fish and wildlife groups. If this is not done we will be raising sheep and cattle behind fences before too long.

The Secretary of Agriculture should be brought into this fight to retain these ranges. I sincerely believe there is no time to waste. We had better all start fighting soon.

—Reginald Meaker
Reno, Nevada

WORK toward the passage of laws to transfer control of ranges from the Federal Government to the States in which they are located.

—B. H. Thomas
Dubois, Idaho

WE have so little public land that it does not present a problem for us. Regardless, my sympathies are with the rancher.

—Leo Pacheco
Tinnie, New Mexico

THERE are no contemplated major reductions in livestock numbers on the forests in our area. However, there may be a few minor adjustments worked out mutually with users.

I believe it would be helpful if grazers were alert to improved management practices, including better distribution, rotation, cross fences and deferred use. We need to work together with public range managers on these problems.

By all means, stockmen should get behind revegetation projects. Acreage isn't going to increase in the over-all public land picture. More people, more highways and more industrial and recreational developments mean that we will have to make our acreage produce more efficiently and abundantly.

One more point which will have to be accomplished is that stockmen must sell sportsmen on accepting the recommendations of big game biologists. When deer, antelope and elk herds are not properly managed, sheepmen suffer.

—V. W. Johnson
Pendleton, Oregon

Let's Talk About Our Auxiliary

"In necessary things, unity; in doubtful things, liberty; in all things, charity."

Mrs. Parm (Gladys) Dickson
Okanogan, Washington
First Vice President

MRS. Dickson is not new to the directory of Auxiliary officers, having served as auditor the past two years.

She has also been active in the Washington Wool Growers Auxiliary, having worked two years as president of that organization and three years as its vice president. She has been connected with the Washington "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest seven years and now is serving as a district director.

A native of Washington State, Mrs. Dickson comes from a western Washington pioneer family and is of Scotch and Welsh decent. She is a graduate of Central Washington College of Education at Ellensburg and taught primary education and public school music.

She married Parm Dickson in 1922 and since has been active in Wool Growers Auxiliary affairs. The couple has four daughters.

Mrs. George Ward
Shaniko, Oregon
Historian

MRS. Ward married into the sheep business sometime ago and has been active in Auxiliary work since.

She is another of the new members of the National Wool Growers Auxiliary staff of officers.

In addition to her National Auxiliary post, Mrs. Ward is currently serving as vice president and lamb promotion chairman of the Oregon Wool Growers Auxiliary. She also recently completed three years of service as an assistant in the Oregon "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest.

Mrs. Ward has been active in community affairs and is a member of the Shaniko School Board. She is the mother of two children, a son and a daughter.

Mrs. S. M. (Fern) Ercanbrack
Provo, Utah
Second Vice President

MRS. Ercanbrack has served on the Board of Trustees of Utah State University for the past eight years and is currently vice chairman of the Board.

She has been active in Auxiliary work for a number of years, serving as National Wool Growers Auxiliary Parliamentarian prior to assuming her current post. She has been a member of the Utah Wool Growers Auxiliary for 15 years, during which time she served as president, parliamentarian and legislative council representative; chairman of the Utah Wool Growers Auxiliary Program Revision Committee and president of the Central Utah District.

Mrs. Ercanbrack is the mother of three children, a son and two daughters.

Mrs. Adolf ("Tops") Stieler
Comfort, Texas
Auditor

ANOTHER newcomer to the current list of officers of the Women's Auxiliary of the National Wool Growers Association is Mrs. Adolf ("Tops") Stieler.

Although new to Auxiliary duties, "Tops" is a veteran worker in the sheep industry. She is another of the wool grower's wives who help their husbands in the direct operation of their stock. "Tops" has the task of raising orphan lambs, which she does with the assistance of nanny goats.

She has been, and currently is, one of the leaders of the "Miss Wool of Texas" contest, which recently blossomed into the "National Miss Wool" contest. Tops is also an accomplished vocal soloist, as those who attended the recent NWGA Convention at Portland, Oregon, can attest.

Mrs. R. I. (Theresa) Port
Sundance, Wyoming
Secretary-Treasurer

THERESA Port is serving as an officer of the National Wool Growers Auxiliary for the first time. However, she is no newcomer to livestock industry affairs. She is a graduate nurse and works closely with her husband, a veterinarian and purebred Rambouillet breeder. The couple is nationally prominent for work in these fields.

In addition to her work on the ranch, Mrs. Port has also been active in the affairs of the Wyoming Wool Growers Auxiliary, serving three years as Auxiliary president and four years as Auxiliary secretary.

Mrs. Frank (Jackie) Ellis, Jr.
Casper, Wyoming
Corresponding Secretary

JACKIE Ellis is a graduate of the University of Wyoming, Class of 1953, and went to Casper to work as a secretary upon graduation.

In 1955, she married Frank Ellis, Jr., a sheepman and former president of the Natrona County Wool Growers Association. She has been active in the Natrona County Auxiliary since that time, currently occupying the vice president's post and having been secretary for two years.

The couple has two sons, one age three and the other age five months.

Mrs. M. J. (Ferne) Overacker, Jr.
San Jose, California
National Publicity Chairman

MRS. Overacker comes from an established wool family which has held membership in the California Wool Growers Association for 36 years and has charter membership in the Alameda County Wool Growers Association.

Ferne has been active in a great number of community activities for several years. She is currently a district director of the California "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest, and was California State Contest director in 1957 and 1958.

The Overacker family includes a son and three daughters.

Mrs. Earl (Jane) Powell

Roswell, New Mexico

Parliamentarian

MRS. Powell holds Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts Degrees from Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth, Texas, and has done postgraduate work at both the University of Mexico and the University of Texas.

She married a West Texas Rancher and has lived on ranches in Texas and New Mexico for 30 years. She is the mother of two children, a son and a daughter, both married.

Mrs. Powell has served two years as director of the New Mexico "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest and is currently serving her second term as president of the New Mexico Wool Growers Auxiliary.

Miss Joan Hull

New York City, New York

Home Sewing Director

MISS Hull, who recently assumed the home sewing directorship of the Wool Bureau Inc., has been with that organization for the past seven years. Prior to her appointment in connection with the "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest, Miss Hull worked in the Wool Bureau's Women's Wear Promotion Department, covering the wool fabric market and preparing training materials for retail education programs.

A graduate of Skidmore College, Miss Hull has studied textile designing.

Mrs. Roy (Phyllis) Laird

Dubois, Idaho

Resolutions Committee Chairman

PHYLLIS Laird is a true sheepman's wife. She readily admits to having cooked for lamb crews, helped trail, dock, brand, move camp and do anything else that a sheepman's wife is called upon to do. "Furthermore," she admits, "I loved every minute of it."

Her Auxiliary work has included: secretary of the National Wool Growers Auxiliary for two years; secretary of the Idaho Wool Growers Auxiliary for two years, and Idaho "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest director. She is currently in her second year in the contest post.

Mrs. Laird has been a school teacher for 32 years and has been clerk of her local county draft board since 1951. She is a native of Idaho.

Mrs. Delbert (Ora) Chipman

American Fork, Utah

Lamb Promotion Chairman

ORA Chipman is no newcomer to Auxiliary work. The originator of the gigantic "Make It Yourself With Wool" promotion program, she has a long and outstanding record of achievements in Auxiliary work.

Mrs. Chipman was president of the National Wool Growers Auxiliary from 1947 to 1949, and has been chairman of the lamb promotion committee for a number of years. She has also held numerous positions of leadership in other wool grower Auxiliary capacities.

Her lamb cookouts in her home State are a contributing force in the promotion of lamb, and annually draw the raves of the guests and wool growers who enjoy them. Mrs. Chipman is one of the most widely known women in the United States Wool Industry.

Mrs. George (B. G.) Erickson

Belle Fourche, South Dakota

National Press Correspondent

MRS. Erickson has been a wool grower's wife since 1952. She served two years as secretary of the South Dakota Wool Growers Auxiliary and is now in her second term as director of the South Dakota "Make It Yourself With Wool" contest.

Mrs. Erickson holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Dakota Wesleyan University and has done graduate work at the University of Kansas and the University of Havana (Cuba).

In addition to her duties with the Wool Growers Auxiliary, Mrs. Erickson is a member of the faculty at Blackhills Teachers College at Spearfish, South Dakota, and has a daughter, age three.

PLEASE send all reports for the auxiliary Section to Mrs. George Erickson, Belle Fourche, South Dakota, Press Correspondent for the National Auxiliary.

Industry Protest . . .

(*Continued from page* 16)

foreign exchange rate for Uruguayan exports and imports of all classes of goods. Due to the recent granting of import permits for non-essentials of the so-called second and third categories at the free financial rate of around nine pesos a dollar, the average exchange rose substantially, thus justifying top duty removal. The Uruguayan peso continues firm."

Also much was said about the economic condition of the domestic wool industry and the fact that removal of these duties would further depress the domestic wool market. Treasury Department officials pointed out that they could not take such matters into consideration as they were bound by Section 303 of the Tariff Act of 1930. This section imposes upon the Department the duty of determining when merchandise coming into the United States from abroad is benefiting from a bounty or grant and, if so, requires the imposition of additional duties equal to the net amount of such bounty or grant.

The Treasury Department has promised to "keep under intense study the formula under which the countervailing duties have been computed and to watch carefully the volume of wool tops being imported into this country from Uruguay" and the effect of such imports upon employment in the United States. Many Senators (See National Wool Grower, March, 1959 page 8) are also looking into other channels for relief on this import problem.

* * * *

THE National Association of Wool Manufacturers on March 11, 1959 set forth in a letter to Secretary Robert B. Anderson of the Treasury Departments facts which, in their opinion, warrant countervailing duties on imports of Uruguayan wool yarns and fabrics. Though not approving the Treasury Department's formula for determining need for such duties they contend that based on that formula countervailing duties on imports of wool yarns and fabrics are necessary.

"Our information," President William I. Kent states in the letter to Secretary Anderson, "is that the exchange rate for wool yarns is 5.21 pesos per dollar, about 20 percent above the Treasury benchmark, and that the exchange rate for wool cloth is 6.40 pesos per dollar or 47 percent above the treasury benchmark. It is highly probable that the Treasury in investigating other wool products and comparing the rates of exchange thereon with its own criterion and find that countervailing action is required."

Three Humane Slaughter Methods OK'd by USDA

THE U. S. Department of Agriculture has designated as humane three methods of handling and slaughtering livestock, in accordance with the provisions of the Humane Slaughter Law of 1958.

The three methods are: **chemical,** the use of carbon dioxide gas for sheep and swine; **mechanical,** the use of captive bolt stunners, or gunshot on sheep, swine, goats, calves, cattle, horses and mules, and **electrical,** the stunning of swine, sheep, calves, and cattle with electric current.

Produce Surgical Anesthesia

Designated methods require that carbon dioxide gas or electric current be administered so as to produce surgical anesthesia in animals quickly and calmly, and that captive bolt stunners and firearms produce immediate and complete unconsciousness with minimum of excitement and discomfort. Animals must also be driven to slaughter-preparation areas with a minimum of excitement and discomfort. Areas through which animals are driven must be free from hazards that might accidentally produce pain.

The designations were made after advice and consultation with the Humane Slaughter Advisory Committee established in accordance with the law. Don C. Collins, Kit Carson, Colorado, and E. Howard Hill, Des Moines, Iowa, represented livestock producers on the committee.

Compliance Deadline Set

Packers offering meat products for sale to Federal agencies after July 1, 1960, must comply with the law. A detailed description of the designated methods appeared in the Federal Register of March 3.

Ritual requirements with respect to slaughter are deemed by the Humane Slaughter Law to comply with the public policy it expresses, and are also exempted from the terms of the Act, therefore needing no administrative action.

Research to improve acceptable slaughter methods and develop other methods that comply with the intent of the law is continuing. As new or improved methods are developed they will be considered and evaluated, with the continuing help of the Advisory Committee.

Around the Range Country

Around the Range Country gives our readers a chance to express their opinions about anything pertaining to the industry or about life in general. In offering this space for free expression of thought, The National Wool Grower assumes no responsibility for any statement made. The statement about the condition of pastures is taken from the U. S. Weather Bureau report for the week ending March 23, 1959.

PASTURES

Grasses from California to central Oklahoma and Texas are in need of moisture for good development. The most serious need continues to exist in New Mexico and west Texas. Prairie fires are a constant and serious threat. Winter grains are providing grazing in parts of the central Great Plains. Snow cover has disappeared from most of the northern Great Plains, with pastures and fields providing some dry roughage.

Eastward from the Great Plains, grasses are greening as far north as southern Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania. In the Southeast, pasture grasses made good growth, despite below normal temperatures, and they are beginning to supply near-normal grazing. Small grains in the Southeast are also providing a fair amount of grazing.

The week was abnormally cold in Gulf Coastal sections and east of the Mississippi River, and unseasonably mild elsewhere. Precipitation was heavy in parts of the Southern States and along the north Pacific Coast, but mostly very light elsewhere with none at all in large areas of the Southwest for the fourth consecutive week.

ARIZONA

Thatcher, Graham County
March 18, 1959

I am not too well acquainted with the sheep ranges here, since I have only 13 sheep and keep them penned up. My sheep are registered Columbias. There are only a few sheep in this part of Arizona.

My sheep wintered well this year, and we have no disease problems of any kind. Hay prices in this area are about the same as they were last year —$25 to $30. The weather man was kind and gave us good weather during lambing.

—Lester Mecham

CALIFORNIA

Madeline, Lassen County
March 16, 1959

I moved here from the Sacramento Valley last July. I sold my sheep because our fencing was not good enough to hold them. However, when I can get sheep-tight fencing, I will get some more sheep.

We have a short growing season here. Our elevation is 5,350 feet and we have to feed five months or more each year. However, it is good stock country.

The range is very dry. We have not had as much rain and snow this year as we had the last two years. Unless we get more rain, range feed will be short.

Neither shearing nor lambing has started in this area yet. Shearing will begin around May 1st. Good help is hard to find. What there is, is not too dependable. I do not know what shearers will be paid this year. Last year the rate was about 50 cents per head.

—Harry B. Boswell

COLORADO

LaJara, Conejos County
March 13, 1959

Our spring range is in average condition this year as it has been for the past two or three years. My sheep are in very fine condition thanks to an open winter and lots of feed. We are also fortunate that we have no disease problems.

The plentiful feed condition has also dropped prices on alfalfa hay lower than last year. Alfalfa hay is currently bringing $10 per ton loose and $15 baled.

The major portion of the lambing in this area has not yet begun. A few farm flocks have already lambed. Farm flock operators enjoyed good weather and had sufficient help to handle the work.

There has also been a limited amount of shearing in this area, however, most of that work will begin during the early part of April. Shearers are currently being paid 32 cents without

board. This corresponds with the 1958 price.

There have been some recent wool transactions in our area. One outstanding clip, grading about one-half blood sold at 43 cents per pound. There were 1,500 pounds in this clip. Another small clip sold at 37 cents. Both of these sales were transacted March 1.

—E. C. Hutchinson

IDAHO

Dubois, Clark County
March 15, 1959

We are currently preparing to begin shearing. Early shearing in this area will start around April 20, and late shearing will begin about May 25. We do not know what shearers will be paid. The rate last year was 50 cents with board and 55 cents without.

So far our weather has been only fair for the part of the lambing which has been completed. We have been able to obtain sufficient help for lambing, but so far have been able to save only 95 percent as many lambs as we saved in 1958.

Our range has been snow covered and it is too early to tell how it will be. However, prospects look fair to good. Our sheep have wintered well and we have no disease problems with which to cope.

Alfalfa hay prices are currently somewhat lower than they were last year, with loose hay going at $8 to $10 and baled at $10 to $13.

—B. H. Thomas

MONTANA

Cameron, Madison County
February 16, 1959

I think with the exception of wages and the cost of living, our operating costs are about the same as they were in 1957. Alfalfa hay is currently selling at $10 per ton loose and $12 to $15 per ton baled.

One of our real problems in this area is with coyotes which are more numerous now than they have been in the recent past. Government trappers have just too much country to cover here.

The herder situation is also very bad at present. All of our herders are older men.

Forage on our winter range has been good thanks to very mild weather. We haven't had too much snow to speak of until the middle of February. We have done some supplemental feeding, mainly using cottonseed cake.

Our flock is currently in very good condition. We are running a smaller breeding flock this year than we did last.

—Donald Clark

NEVADA

Reno, Washoe County
March 11, 1959

My sheep have wintered only fairly and the weather and feed conditions on our range since March 1 have not been good. The range is currently only 30 per cent as good as it was during the past two or three years. We need rain badly.

We have not, as yet, started lambing.

We expect some difficulties since good, experienced help is very scarce.

Feed prices are about the same as last year, with baled alfalfa hay selling at $25 per ton.

Most of the shearing in our section of the country will be done in May. The shearing rate last year was 50 cents per head and this included both shearing and sacking the wool.

We have no current problem with diseases of any kind.

—Reginald Meaker

NEW MEXICO

Tinnie, Lincoln County
March 14, 1959

There have been some recent wool transactions in our area. A few clips of fine wool have been reported sold at up to 40 cents per pound with medium wool selling at 3 cents to 5 cents less.

There has, as yet, been no contracting in this area on 1959 lambs. However, there have been some recent sales of fine-wooled yearling ewes. Ewes were reported selling at about $25 per head.

Conditions on our range since March 1 have been about the same as they were the last two or three years. Our sheep have wintered excellently. We have no disease problems. Feed conditions on the spring range are somewhat better than average.

Lambing has not yet started, but we anticipate problems in getting sufficient help, as that is always a problem on a ranch.

Alfalfa hay prices are somewhat lower than they were last year. Baled hay is selling at $20 per ton.

—Leo Pacheco

OREGON

Oregon City, Clackamas County
March 14

Where I live, west of the mountains, there are different range and feeding conditions than on the eastern side of the slopes. The range and feed are generally much better and winters are open on the western side making grazing both easier and better.

We lamb in sheds, starting about January 10. We have been able to save 10 percent more lambs per 100 ewes this year than we did in 1958. This was because we had more twin lambs. Good weather and sufficient help also aided greatly.

Shearing in this area is not scheduled to begin until after April 1. Shearers are currently being contracted at the same rate as they were last year—45 cents per head with board and 50 cents without.

There has been no contracting activity on 1959 lambs in this area. Generally, there is no contracting, since most lambs are sold through stockyards and at other auction places. However, there have been some recent sales of yearling ewes. Fine-wooled, yearling ewes are selling at about $30 per head, with whitefaced, crossbred ewes selling between $22.50 and $30.

Our range has been in only fair shape since March 1. However, it is better than it has been the past several years. The condition of feed on our spring range is very good. We have rye pasture.

Our sheep have wintered well and we have not had any disease problems this year.

Alfalfa hay prices are somewhat higher than a year ago. Baled hay is currently selling at $30 per ton.

—J. G. Kassner

Pendleton, Umatilla County
March 13

Sheep have wintered very well this year. There are no disease problems, at present, which is much better than a year ago. However, weather and feed conditions on the range have been very poor since early March, and are below average in comparison to the past two or three years. Feed on the spring range is still very short and warmer weather is needed to bring about more rapid growth.

Lambing has started. Indications point to an increase in the percentage of lambs saved as compared to last year. One range man in this area reports a 143 percent lamb crop, despite the fact that the weather has been fair to poor. Sufficient help was available for lambing operations.

Shearing has not yet begun in this

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area. It will begin in late March or early April, depending on the weather.

Alfalfa hay is higher this year, though some operators have paid approximately the same price this year as they did last. Top quality alfalfa hay has been at $23 to $25 baled.

—V. W. Johnson

Service Creek, Wheeler County
March 16, 1959

We have our lambing under way at present and it looks as though our lamb crop will be about the same this year as it was last. So far we have had fairly good lambing weather and sufficient help.

Our range has been in poor condition since early this year. Consequently, our sheep have wintered only fairly. Feed is much slower in growing than it has been in past years. It is at best short and backward on our spring range. We have no disease problems.

The going price on alfalfa hay is presently $18 to $20 loose and $24 to $25 baled. This is somewhat higher than it was a year ago. There have been a few sales of wool in this area. Some fine wool was reported moved at around $1.02 to $1.06 a pound clean basis.

We anticipate beginning our shearing sometime in May.

—R. W. Keys

SOUTH DAKOTA

Newell, Butte County
March 17

Despite rather cold weather, we have been able to save about the same number of lambs this year as we did last. Our 1959 lamb crop is about 125 per cent. We had plenty of help during our lambing operations.

Our range is in fair condition and is definitely less favorable than it has been for the past two or three years. However, the sheep wintered well and we have no disease problems of any kind.

The current going price on alfalfa hay is somewhat lower than it was in 1958. Loose hay has been selling at about $12 per ton and baled hay at about $15.

There has been no contracting of 1959 lambs as yet in this area. There have been a few sales of yearling ewes, however, with crossbred whitefaced ewes selling at about $31 per head.

—J. B. Lafayette

Sturgis, Meade County
March 16

Both shearing and lambing are set to begin here in the near future.

There have been a few small farm flocks shorn already. However, the majority of the shearing work will begin sometime in April. Shearers have been paid about 40 cents per head without board and about 37 cents per head with. This is about the same rate as was paid last year. Our shearing contract includes both shearing and sacking.

Lambing will begin in earnest in late April. We usually lamb in May and anticipate sufficient help to handle the operation. We hope the weather will also be favorable. It has been very good during past lambing operations.

There has been no contracting as yet on any 1959 lambs. The last sale of yearling ewes took place last fall, with both fine-wooled and whitefaced crossbred ewes selling at about $27 to $30 per head.

Alfalfa hay is currently selling at lower prices than it did last year. Baled hay is $15 per ton and loose hay $10.

Feed conditions on our spring range are about average or a little better than they have been during the past two or three years. Weather and feed conditions on our ranges have been generally good since early March. Our sheep have wintered well and we have no disease problems.

—Oakley O. Lamphere

WASHINGTON

Malaga, Chelan County
March 14, 1958

On January 20 we sold our wool clip at 39 cents a pound, grease basis, tags out.

We have not as yet started our 1959 shearing. If all goes well that will proceed between April 20 and May 10. Shearers this year will receive 50 cents per head, with board. This is approximately the same rate as was paid last year.

We have completed our lambing, however. Our current crop is 185 per cent —much better than last year. We had very good weather during lambing. Inasmuch as we have only 250 head we do all the work ourselves.

Last year we had an epidemic of pneumonia, scours and hoof rot. This year we fed aureomycin in salt and had no trouble. We also used phosphate in the corrals and jugs. We have had no disease problem this year.

The going price on alfalfa hay is higher than it was a year ago, with baled hay selling at $23 per ton.

Out range is in approximately the same condition it was last year. There is no grass as yet but we seldom turn sheep out on the range before April 1.

—Virgil Luebber

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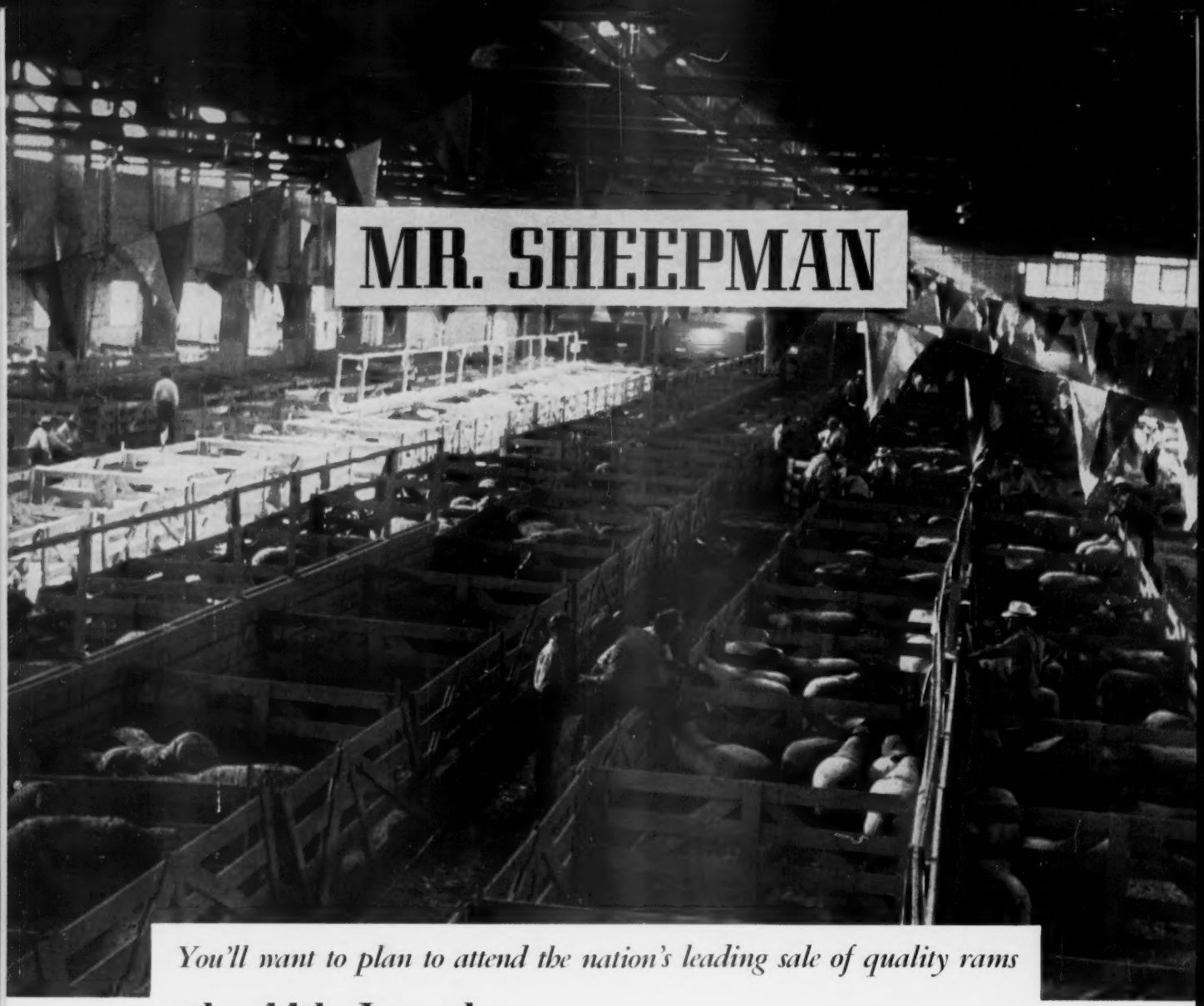

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